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A DANGEROUS CONCLUSION

“Miners Magaz Damage Suits

We cannot follow the “Miners' magazine,” the organ of the Western Federation of Miners, in the ultimate conclusion at which it arrives in the article, extensive extracts of which will be found below, in which it comments on the damage suits aggregating $1,000,000 which the mine operators of the Cripple Creek district have instituted against the Union. The reasoning of the Union's officials, showing the incongruity between all established principles of individual and collective rights, on the one hand, and eventual judgments against the Union, on the other, are faultless. Not so faultless, however, is the paper's ultimate conclusion that if such judgments are obtained, then “the laboring man would grow desperate, and anarchy would raise its hydra-head in riot, rebellion and bloodshed.” If any of the words here quoted must be embodied into a conclusion, the correct conclusion would read: “Such action by the capitalist courts would be proof positive that the capitalist class seeks to nag the working class of the land, in the hope that the working class may indulge in some act of angry craziness, before it shall have had time to so thoroughly organize itself that the continuance of capitalist spoliation and brutality will no longer find the working class weak enough to grow desperate and fly off the handle into anarchy and riot, but will be met and wiped out with that order, precision and despatch that characterize the strong in the knowledge of their rights, and the resolution and power to enforce them.”

Nothing would suit the brigand capitalist class better than the certainty that the ultimate conclusion arrived at by the “Miners' Magazine” would come about; certain that capitalist nagging would produce the desired effect, the nagging will be done, and brutality will be merrily heaped upon brutality so as to force the battle before the hosts of Labor shall be ready to deliver it. On the other hand, there is not to-day any trench imaginable that will afford the working class half as much protection against such official acts of brutality as the one contemplated by $1,000,000 damage suits against the Western Federation of Miners, as the posture of self-control, conspicuously, firmly adopted, that will notify the capitalist class that no act of brigandage on their part, no nagging and prodding will drive the working class into any act of craziness, or goad it into rioting, but that it will abide its time and strike when it is ready. In the measure that this posture is made clear, in that measure will capitalism quit scheming extraordinary acts of wrongfulness, and devote its thoughts to the regulation crimes without which it must cease to exist.

Not in the hands of the foe must a body of Revolution place its own conduct; it must hold the same firmly in its own grasp. It marks the difference between success and failure.

SUED FOR $1,000,000

Capitalists Continue Efforts to Destroy Western Federation of Miners.

[From the Denver “Miners Magazine”, official organ of the Western Federation of Miners, of May 4, 1905.]

THE W. F. M. SUED FOR $1,000,000.

The mine operators of the Cripple Creek district, the smelting trust and the mill trust have brought suits for damages against the Western Federation of Miners, aggregating $1,000,000. It is only a short time ago, when this same combination made an assault upon the treasury of the State of Colorado for the sum of $800,000, but the members of the Legislature wanted too large a commission to pass the insurrection bond issue, and consequently this hungry horde of exploiters were left with their certificates of indebtedness still unpaid.

The following story of the suit for damages appeared in the Denver Times of April 24:

“Suits for damages aggregating $1,000,000 have been filed by the Cripple Creek district mine companies and the smelter trust against the Western Federation of Miners in the District and Federal courts. The companies bringing the suits are:

“United States Reduction and Refining Company. Vindicator Consolidated Gold Mining Company. Granite Gold Mining Company. Elkton Consolidated Mining and Milling Company. Mary McKinney Mining Company. El Paso Consolidated Gold Mining Company. Stratton Independence, limited. Findley Gold Mining Company.

“Defendants in the suit are:

“Western Federation of Miners, as an organization. Charles Moyer, president W. F. of M. William D. Haywood, secretary W. F. of M. Frank Schmelzer, member executive board W. F. of M. John M. O'Neil, editor Miners' Magazine. Charles Kennison, president Union No. 40, Cripple Creek, W. F. of M. A. G. Paul, secretary Union N. 40, Cripple Creek, W. F. of M. Arthur Parker, member of W. F. of M. P. M. Mullaney, member of W. F. of M. D. C. Copley, member of W. F. of M.

“Should these companies be successful in the courts it would amount to the practical bankruptcy of the powerful organization of Miners.

“The United States Reduction and Refining Company, being a foreign corporation, has filed its suit in the United States Court, but the others, Colorado corporations, file theirs in the District Court.

“The suits are the direct outcome of the famous strike in the Cripple Creek district. The petition alleges conspiracy on the part of Moyer, Haywood and others of the Federation, as an organization, to injure the property and business of the plaintiffs.

“The mining companies have some of the best known lawyers in the West. The United States has Hall, Babbitt, and Thayer; Potter and Banks represent the Vindicator; C. C. Hamlin, the Granite; H. M. McGary, the Golden Cycle; Gunnell & Chinn, the Elkton, Mary McKinney and El Paso; and Schuyler & Schuyler, the Findley.

“The suits are by far the most important mining suits ever filed in the State, and should they be successful and judgment should be secured against the Federation for $1,000,000, it would meaning the draining of the Federation's treasury, and, it is said, would result in the collapse of the organization.

“The cost of conducting the suits will be enormous upon the Federation and the mining companies alike, but the latter are in a compact on the question and the expense, it is said, will be divided among these rich corporations.”

* * *

President Charles H. Moyer, when interviewed by a reporter of the Rocky News, relative to the damage suit, said:

“We have no intimation that the Western Federation of Miners is to be sued by the mine owners of the Cripple Creek district and the smelter trust for $1,000,000. The only question that could be involved in such a suit would be the right of organized labor to strike. If such a suit should be filed it would be in line with the suit filed by the mine owners and the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company against the United Mine Workers of America for $450,000.

“The right of labor to organize and to cease work has been so often decided in the courts that I have no fear of the outcome of any damage suit that might arise.

“The position taken by the mine owners that their property had been damaged will not stick.

“I have no doubt that the filing of these suits is simply to retaliate on me for having filed suits in the United States Circuit Court against ex-Governor Peabody, Sherman M. Bell and Bulkeley Wells.”

Secretary-Treasurer Haywood, upon being questioned concerning the action of the mine owners in the courts, said:

“I think the public will find a little later on that the owners and not the workers of mines are guilty of conspiracy. The worst form of conspiracy is to try to squeeze money from the families of the very people who have made large fortunes for the squeezers. That is my opinion of the clause in the complaint which charges the Western Federation of Miners with conspiracy to have the men quit work and do damage to the property.

“The whole question will be whether or not a man has the right to say if he shall work for any individual or corporation. I understand the law as giving all persons the right to say whether or not they shall work for a man. Then does not that same law give a body of men (or a labor union) that same right?”

* * *

The mine operators, the mill and trusts, having failed to exterminate the Western Federation of Miners, through the most lawless and outrageous methods that debauched minds could suggest, have now invaded the sanctuaries of judicial tribunals and asked that $1,000,000 be granted to them as compensation for their disappointment in the annihilation of the organization whose members they deported and imprisoned in bull pens. If the courts should establish a precedent in this damage suit, sustaining the petition of the plaintiffs, then organized labor has been deprived of the only potent weapon that it has to wage a battle against the employer.

If a wage slave has the right to quit work for any reason as an individual, then he certainly does not lose that right when he joins hands with others. If the laborer has the right to quit his employment as an individual for cause or without cause, the collective body of labor organization has the same right.

Men do not lose their individual rights simply because they solve themselves into collective bodies.

The same character of a suit for damages has been instituted in this State against the United Mine Workers, and if the courts hold that an employer can collect damages simply because his employes have exercised their right to quit work, then labor organizations must go out of business. What would naturally follow if such a precedent was established by the courts? It requires no stretch of the imagination to conceive that laboring men would grow desperate and that anarchy would raise its hydra-head in riot, rebellion and bloodshed.

These damage suits instituted by the corporation and the trusts against the Western Federation of Miners and the United Mine Workers of America will be watched with interest in every part of the United States, for upon the judicial return rests practically the right of labor to strike.

CURRENT COMMENT.

In the “New York Commercial” of the 8th instant, there appears an article on “Women and Men Employes.” Written evidently to justify the low wages paid women performing men's work in Chicago offices, it makes a statement that is worthy of consideration. Says this statement:

“There are positions in these larger offices, especially in the packing-house offices and those of the railroads, where it is necessary that a clerk shall work at top speed day after day, with little or no cessation.”

And how does this working “at top speed day after day” result? The “Commercial” says:

“A woman in one of these positions may do excellent work for a period, but a breakdown is the inevitable result.'

From which the implication is conveyed that the men clerks stand it like an oak stands the storm. Such an implication is erroneous. The last census shows that the men employes are going down before this intense labor in increasing numbers, the death rate among “clerical and official” male employes in 1890 being 9.8 per cent., as compared with 13.5 per cent. in 1900. Thus, Capitalism, in attempting to justify itself in one direction, only succeeds in exposing and condemning itself in another.

The insult of the bear hunter to the Chicago workingmen should not be lost upon the Working Class. Imagine this President, with a violator of the Interstate Commerce Law in his Cabinet, reading peaceful, petitioning workingmen a lecture on “law and order”, with the insolence of a Caesar and the arrogance of a boor! The whole incident shows that now, as always, the offensive ruling class realizes the necessity of intimidating and dominating the inoffensive oppressed classes, in order to uphold their robber system.

The manufacturers of Hartford, Conn., have established the card index system, for “mutual protection and also for weeding out the good from the undesirable employees.” Any workingman urging unionism and Socialism will find himself among the “undesirables.” Talk about “the coming slavery of Socialism”! Slavery is not coming, but it is already here, under Capitalism!

The card index systems by which employers hope to control their employes by “weeding out the good from the undesirable” will only keep alive the conflict between Capital and Labor. It will compel the Working Class to resort to devious courses and open rebellion. It will breed an army of persecuted workingmen who will stir up discontent and preach the Social Revolution. Capitalism is bound to sow the seed of its own undoing.

TRADES UNIONS

And Their Needs, Discussed by Architectural Wire, Iron and Metal Workers.

(Special Correspondence.)

Detroit, May 13.—“Trades Unions and Their Needs,” was the timely subject chosen by the speaker of the evening at the fifth of the series of educational meetings inaugurated by The Architectural Wire, Iron and Metal Workers' Union, No. 4, of Detroit, Mich., May 8, Mr. Charles Erb. Erb gave a very interesting review of the past history of the trades union movement for more than thirty-five years, during which he has been an active member, showing how trades unions began to grow powerful about 1880. He remembered that when cigar manufacturers introduced the mould system in 1873, that the Cigarmakers' Union would not allow its members to accept mould work. “Nothing but hand work for us”, was their slogan. But by the year 1876, the Detroit Cigarmakers' Union had decreased to six members from a membership of 200. They then began to realize that the object of introducing machinery was to make work more speedy, which means opportunity to lower wages, and in 1877 they saw that it was necessary to re-organize and take in both hand and mould cigarmakers.

While the speaker stated that the trades unions have served a great purpose, shortened hours, raised wages and have done away with obnoxious shop and trade rules; there still remains much to be done. Trade unions have not progressed as they should do, “and the problem that confronts us is not what we have accomplished, BUT HOW LONG CAN WE HOLD ON TO WHAT WE HAVE GOT, WITH OUR PRESENT FORM OF ORGANIZATION.”

Erb said that the million of brother immigrants who come to the shores of this country each year, are becoming a weapon in the hands of the greedy employer, used to brow beat the workers here, who desire more than a bare living. The capitalist class care not for creed or color, as long as they obey their commands. The workers must get away from the idea “that there is an identity of interests. And I am pleased that your organization has taken up the study of the “New Trades Union Movement,” which must become more aggressive, and, if it does not, it will die a natural death. I believe that the organizations will be compelled to become aggressive, because the capitalist class are awakening to the fact that trades unions are looking for more than shorter hours or better wages and that the true trade unionist will go in to politics. If after these many years of struggle we have got laws passed making eight or ten hours a legal day's work, only to have them declared unconstitutional by a Supreme Court decision as in New York, and while as yet the Pennsylvania law of eight hours for mine workers is said to be constitutional, it is about time that we began to realize that as a class we must reach the Supreme Court and must get control of the reins of governments, BY A UNIVERSAL STRIKE AT THE BALLOT BOX.”

Continuing, Erb said Prince Bismarck, the deceased Prime Minister of Germany, in 1877 had an anti-Socialist law passed which apparently destroyed all organizations, but really had the opposite effect from that desired by Bismarck; for in after years the law was repealed and organizations sprang up like mushrooms.

The speaker quoted a well known enemy of organized labor in Battle Creek, Mich., who said that but ten men to every 800 are organized and wanted to know if they were to be dictated to by this number. Erb said: “They will be unless we are satisfied with our conditions. If we are we would not be here.” But still the lack of interest shown on the part of the working class is really astonishing.

The speaker believed that in the future strikes will be of a general nature, for if we do accomplish anything, we must sacrifice something.

In Belgium the people, through a general strike, secured their franchise. In this country the workers fail to take advantage of a privilege they have, and it seemed to him that they will soon see the necessity to make a general strike, “not for a franchise, we have that, but at the ballot box for all we produce, not only for ourselves, but for our offspring.”

The attention of Mr. Erb was called to the fact that members of trades unions out on strike sometimes go to extremes in regard to so-called scabs, who have taken their places, even committing bodily harm, and was asked: “What attitude should the new industrial organization take in regard to the American Federation of Labor when out on strike? Should it support it, or would it be right to scab it on a pure and simple union?”

In answer Mr. Erb stated “that in former years there were two cigarmakers' organizations: the Progressive and the International. He had been a member of the Progressive Union, but shop conditions compelled him to join the International. Who was reaping the benefit until 1886? Why the employers. If the Progressive was on strike, the International would scab it, and vice versa. If the new organization will do this I am sorry for it. But I do not believe it will do this, for I believe that this organization will be organized under one head, to strike for our emancipation, and not to fight my class. Let them understand that we must stop fighting among ourselves, and direct our energies against the system that causes the employes and employers to be at each other's throats. The only way we can do this is to keep abreast of the times by keeping our eyes on the industrial field as a unit, which move, I think, is contemplated by the New Industrial Union to be formed in Chicago, June 27, and last, but not least, use the ballot to back up our demands.”

In the general discussion which followed Mr. Eastman said he agreed with the speaker and thought that the New Industrial Union will mean that the demand of one craft will be the concern of all crafts, the promoters of which have studied well along industrial lines, and all mistakes of previous unions can be eliminated. The government of to-day is the executive committee of the organized employers, and yet any action of the employers should be welcomed, for if their endeavors to destroy the trade union movement is successful something better will come. The trade union system is based upon the wages system. If the wage basis is antagonized, they will force us out of the present conditions, “and into the Co-operative Commonwealth,” and therefore the apparent lack of interest on the part of the working class should not discourage. He might have added that still waters run deep.

Mr. Otto Justh will be one of the speakers at the next open meeting to be held Monday night, May 22. Subject: “The Lessons of the Interborough Strike in New York.”

Meetings are held at Becker's Hall, corner of Antoine street and Adams avenue, beginning at 8.30, standard time.

Admission free. Free discussion. You are welcome.

MAY DAY RESOLUTION

(From the Edinburgh, Scotland, “Socialist.”

That we Socialists of Edinburgh at this meeting held under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party of Great Britain on the first of May, send greetings to our Comrades of the Working Class of all lands, irrespective of sex, creed, or nationality. United as we are under a common oppression, subjected to the same daily robbery and exploitation at the hands of a common foe, we desire to express the unity and solidarity of the Revolutionary Working Class throughout the world.

We, mustered in the ranks of the S. L. P., the British wing of the International Labor Movement, pledge ourselves to carry on the battle against capital and capital's agents, the labor fakirs and bogus labor and “Socialist” parties until, with the overthrow of the enemy, exploitation and wage slavery are at an end and the Socialist Republic declared.

CONCUR IN ADDRESS.

At the general meeting of the membership of District Alliance 49, Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, held at Daily People building, on Thursday, May 11, it was decided with but one dissenting vote to concur in the Address of Daniel De Leon to the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

Socialism is possible when a majority of the Working Class become conscious that therein lies the salvation of their present and future economic existence. The work of the Socialist to-day is to work to obtain that majority.

THE MODERN STATE

ECONOMIC REGULATION ITS FUNCTION

The modern State not only offers the only social organism equal, in point of size, to the requirements of the Socialist Commonwealth, it, furthermore, constitutes the only natural basis for the same.

All communities have ever had economic functions to fulfill. This must, self-evidently, have been the case with the original Communist societies which we encounter at the threshold of history. In proportion as individual small production and production for sale underwent their successive development, a number of social functions remained extant, the fulfilment of which either succeeded the power of the individual industries, or were from the start recognized as too important to be handed over to the arbitrary conduct of individuals. Along with the care for the young, the poor, the old and infirm—i. e., schools, hospitals and poor-houses—, the community reserved the functions of promoting and regulating commerce—i. e., building highways, coining money, superintending markets—, and the management of certain general and important matters appertaining to production—i. e., water courses, etc. In mediæval society likewise with us here during the early decades of our independence, these several functions developed upon the townships and sometimes upon religious corporations. The mediæval State cared not a copper about such functions.

Matters changed as that State grew into the modern State, i. e., a State of office-holders and soldiers, and became the tool of the capitalist class, which then took control of the situation. The same as all previous forms of States, the modern State is the tool of class rule. It could not, however, fulfill its mission and satisfy the needs of the capitalist class without either dissolving or depriving of their independence, and taking upon itself the functions of those economic organizations which it found in existence, and which lay at the foundation of the pre-capitalist social system. Even in such places where the modern State tolerated the continuance of the mediaeval organizations, these fell into decay and became less and less able to fulfill their functions. These functions became, however, broader and broader with the development of the capitalist system; they grew and continued to grow with such rapidity that the State was gradually compelled to assume even those functions which it cares least troubling about. For instance, the necessity of taking upon itself the whole system of charitable and educational institutions has become so pressing upon the State, that it has in most cases conformed itself to this necessity. From the start it assumed the function of coining money; since then, however, it has been compelled to extend its jurisdiction in other directions as well, notably that of building highways.

There was a time when the capitalist class, full of itself, imagined it could free itself wholly from the restraint of the State; the capitalist declared the State should only watch over his safety at home and abroad, keep the proletarians and foreign competitors in check, but keep its hands off the whole economic life. The capitalist class had good reasons for this wish. However good the power of the capitalists, the power of the State had not always shown itself as subservient as they wished; even there where, as in the United States, the capitalist class had virtually no competitor with whom to dispute the overlordship, and where, accordingly, the power of the State showed itself friendly, the office-holders often became disagreeable friends to deal with.

The hostility of the capitalist class to the interference of the State in the economic life of a country came to the surface first in England during the early stirrings of the Socialist labor movement; that hostile tendency received in England the name of “Manchester School.” It is, therefore, no wonder that the opinion took hold of many a Socialist workman, that a supporter of the “Manchester School” and a capitalist, on the one hand, and on the other, Socialism and the interference of the State in the economic affairs of a country, were one and the same thing; no wonder that such workmen believed that to overthrow the Manchester School was to overthrow capitalism itself. It is just the reverse. The Manchester School was never anything more than a theory which the capitalist class played against the workingman, occasionally, against the Government also, whenever it suited its purposes, but from the logical consequences of which it has carefully guarded. To-day, the “Manchester School” no longer influences the capitalist class abroad; the only traces we see of it here is in a few Bourbon capitalist journals, at least thirty years behind the times. The reason of its decline was the increasing force with which the economic and political development urged the necessity of the extension of the functions of the State.

These functions grow from day to day. Not only do those which the State assumed from the start become ever larger, but new ones are born of the capitalist system itself, of which former generations had no conceptions and which affect intimately the whole economic system. Whereas, formerly, statesmen were essentially diplomats and jurists, to-day they must be economists. Treaties and privileges, ancient researches and matters of precedents are of little use in the solution of modern political problems; economic principles have become the leading arguments. Open any issue of the “Congressional Record,” what are the objects which strike the eye with greatest frequency, if not exclusively? They are: Finance, Taxation, Railroads, Labor, Commerce, etc.

Nor is this all. The economic development forces the State, partly in self-defense, partly for the sake of fulfilling its functions in a better way, partly also for the purpose of increasing the revenues, to take into its own hands more and more functions of industries.

During the Middle Ages, the rulers derived their main income from their property in land; later, during the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, their treasuries derived large accessions from the plundering of church and other estates. On the other hand, the need of money frequently compelled the rulers to sell their property to the capitalists. In most European countries, even now, when the capitalist system is in full force, traces of this former condition of things can be found in the domains of the crown and in State mines. Furthermore, the development of the militray system added arsenals and wharves; the development of commerce added post offices, railroads and telegraphs; finally the increasing demand for money on the part of the State has given birth, in European countries, to all manner of State monopolies.

Nor is a Republican form of government exempt from these features. In monarchies, the remnants of feudalism establish from the start interests in government that are hostile to the capitalist class; in republics these hostile interests are placed there by the contradictions of which the capitalist system itself is guilty. In a republic, there is no feudal head or class to be supported; but in lieu of them there is, bred of capitalism itself, an increasing pauper class, which acting, consciously or unconsciously, in concert with the slums, forces the State to increase its revenues in order to assist that large portion of our population to a living. The pretexts under which revenue is raised to this end are numerous: The most important ones are appropriatinos for “improvements,” in not a few instances, of rivers and places that have no existence, and in most cases, of places where there is no need of such; appropriations for millions of pensions for imaginary “heroes”; appropriations for the erection of costly buildings, etc., etc., all of which have but one purpose in view, the satisfaction of a clamor that is beginning to sound very much like that of the Roman mobs in the declining days of Rome, when the populace was held quiet with bread and circus shows.

While the economic functions and the economic power of the State are thus steadily increased, in our own republic as well as in European monarchies, the whole economic mechanism becomes more and more complicated, more and more sensitive, and the separate capitalist undertakings become proportionally more interdependent upon one nother. Along with all this, grows the dependence of the capitalist class upon the greatest of all their establishments—the State or Government. This increased dependence and interrelation increases also the disturbances and disorders that afflict the economic mechanism, in relief of all of which, the largest of existing economic powers, the State or Government, is with increasing frequency appealed to by the capitalist class. Accordingly, in modern society the State is called upon more and more to step in and take a hand in

(Continued on page 5.)

More About the Elevator Man

A recent article in the Daily People telling about the troubles of the "Elevator Man" aroused so much interest and comment that I deem it best to write at more length on this subject in order to call the attention of the public to a business about which it knows so very little and has such erroneous ideas that its ignorance would be laughable were its results not so fatal at times.

With the exception of motorman on a trolley car in a city like Greater New York there is perhaps no other business which causes such a drain on the nervous system as does that of elevator operator in a department store or office building.

After operating an elevator for years one becomes a nervous, mental and physical wreck. And all because of the utter carelessness and recklessness of the general public.

If it were not for the quick wit and action of the elevator man seldom a day would pass but what you would read of the foolkiller claiming another victim. And nowhere else could he rightfully claim so many fools.

As it is you very seldom hear of any passenger getting hurt by elevators; on account of which great credit should be given the elevator men of this city.

From the minute he starts his car in the morning until he leaves it at night, the elevator man must be ever alert and active; always watching out for the reckless boy, the nearsighted, deaf and forgetful old man or woman, or the nervous, excitable person who is always in a hurry to get on or off the elevator. The great American habit of rush is here exhibited in all its various, and at times, disgusting phases.

Most people seem to think the position of elevator man is a very easy one; that he never works hard and that he can run up and down just as he pleases. Never were they so much mistaken.

Operating elevators, like everything else, must be done by system. The system upon which they are run is that one half the number (no matter how many there are) must be going in the opposite direction to the other half. This keeps the elevators going all the time and carries the people from both directions at once. But to do this the elevator man has to hustle pretty lively, for there are some people who get on and off elevators as if they had all day to do it, and if you say anything to hurry them along you are likely to get a lecture or perhaps get discharged for being impertinent.

The physical labor necessary to operate an elevator would surprise most people. There are half a dozen different makes of elevators, no two of which are operated the same. The one used in nearly all modern office buildings is the hydraulic. This is operated by a long lever extending from the floor of the elevator to within easy reach of a man's hand when hanging by his side. This lever is nearly always stiff, and after you have handled it all day you feel as if you had been dragging some heavy weight along the ground instead of running an elevator. The gates in a good many buildings are so bad that one's arm is stiff and sore after a day's work handling them. So much for the physical part of the business. Now as to the hours and wages.

Elevator operators may be divided into three classes: Hotel and apartment houses, department stores, and office buildings.

In hotels and apartment houses the average wage for elevator operators is $24 a month and board. Of course, there is "tip" money, but the employer has nothing to do with that. The hours are generally ten a day; worked in shifts of six hours on and six off; seven days a week. A good many hotels and apartment houses employ mere boys to run elevators.

But stranger and cheaper than all is the automatic self-operating elevator. While not quite perfect, it is nevertheless fast coming into favor, and will eventually do away with the elevator operator in many modern apartment houses.

The department store elevator operators have the hardest and worst of all positions in this line.

The wages are $10 per week. Out of this they must pay for a uniform which usually costs about $10. They work ten hours a day. The position is one of the most trying on the nerves and patience of a man that one could imagine.

Just step into an elevator in one of the stores for a few minutes and watch the efforts of the elevator man to make his voice heard above that of the chattering women and children, as he vainly endeavors to call out the departments on the different floors. Notice how they will shriek out various questions at him, all at the same time, and all wanting to be answered at once.

If one does not wish to be a woman hater let him keep out of department stores. It is there where woman shows all her petty meanness. For stupidity, ignorance and utter lack of feeling for any one but her own personal self, give me the patron of the department store. At least one-half of them would take a prize in Hades. This may seem a harsh statement, but let those who doubt it ride in a department store elevator for a half hour and see for themselves.

At to office buildings, while the elevator man has not so many women to handle he has his own troubles also.

The wages in office buildings average $12 a week. The hours are usually ten a day with a half holiday Saturday. In many buildings the men are given only a half hour for lunch, which really amounts to twenty minutes, as it takes five minutes to go and come from the dressing room, which is generally on the top floor.

The office building is where one meets that disgusting freak of nature, that trouble breeder, the self-important man. He usually is a shyster lawyer, broker or some other kind of a swindler or parasite, living off rich and poor alike. He struts around like a peacock, throwing out his chest, yelling and talking so that everybody can hear him and acting as if he owned the building, yet he only has a desk in the office of some other tenant.

One peculiar feature of all buildings which have elevators is that no provision is made for the comfort of the operator during the winter months. Elevator shafts are usually built either in the centre of the building or at the back or side of the building. If in the center of the building they are ventilating shafts as well, and the elevator men get the full benefit of all the foul air coming into the shaft. While this kind is a little warm in winter they are sweat boxes in summer.

Every one knows how uncomfortable it is to be near a window at which there is a draft on a cold day. How much worse is it when you have more than two dozen of these windows at your back all day long, such as is the case when the elevator shafts are built at the back or sides of a building. In summer they do not open these windows for some reason or other, and you have the sun scorching you in the back.

Any one who has ridden in the subway knows how their eyes hurt and they suffered from a slight headache when they looked out of the window of the swiftly moving train.

If it affects one thus, what must be the effect upon the eyesight of those who face practically the same thing every day? And that is just what the elevator operator has to face with the swiftly moving elevator.

Most elevators in large office buildings have the speed of subway express trains and while the operator's eyes do not hurt, I am sure that sooner or later his eyesight is affected by it.

It would not be fair to close this article without calling the attention of the public to one significant fact. That is the scarcity of accidents to people using elevators. There are fewer people injured in proportion to the number carried than in any other business in the world.

The elevators in twelve of New York's department stores alone carry a daily average load of 120,000 persons, each carrying 2,400 persons, making a grand total of 36,000,000 for a year of three hundred working days. This is more than is carried by the subway, "L," and surface lines combined. And this is for department stores only. Add to this one hundred elevators in the principal downtown office buildings and you have just double 36,000,000, making a total of 72,000,000 for only one hundred and fifty elevators out of a possible five hundred that are being operated in New York city only.

The figures give one but a faint idea of the vast number who ride in elevators, but they amply bear out the statement of Bishop Potter, made some years ago, that "elevators are making the people so lazy as to change their whole character and that of the country." And I can say Amen to that statement. People will wait ten minutes to ride down one floor which they could have walked in about fifteen seconds, and being sore at themselves for their own stupidity they vent their anger on the elevator man.

To tell in detail all the petty annoyances to which the elevator man is subject and which by themselves are trivial, but when put together tend to make the position one not to be envied, would take more time and space than can be spared. Let this account be sufficient to open the eyes of the public to a few of its own shortcomings so that in future they will be more forebearing with a stray disagreeable elevator man and remember that he may have good cause for being that way just at that minute.

Without wishing in any way to indulge indirectly in self-praise, I can safely say that as a class, nothwithstanding all their ups and downs the elevator men are as courteous, agreeable and manly as any body of men to be found anywhere.

They are beginning to realize that something is wrong somewhere, and though they have started blindly on the wrong path by organizing a union which, I understand, is to be affiliated with the A. F. of H—l, I hope they will soon awaken to the fact that a business that can be learned by anybody inside of twenty-four hours is not going to pay high wages just because some grafters need the money.

For all the good their union will do they had better join it to their sick and death benefit association, which will do more good because it is not knocking its head against Gompersism on one side and capitalism on the other.

Awake! men, to the fact that because you wear a uniform and work in a fine-looking building you are not an inch further from the class struggle than the Italian $1.50 a day laborer. That the same conditions which govern his wages govern yours—the undodgeable law of supply and demand.

In twentyfour hours an elevator man can be made. In twenty-four hours you can pace the pavement looking for a job not so easily found. They don't want old men to operate elevators. Your span of life is limited and you had better prepare for the inevitable day when you will be too old to even run a freight car.

Mr. Morgan, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Gould, nor Mr. Rockefeller are not going to help you just because you run an elevator in the building in which they happen to have an office. You have got to help yourselves. And you can't do that without helping others and you can't do that unless you join them in their work in the party in which they are working to help you and help themselves, the Socialist Labor Party.

Join this party and strive to help your fellow men. You cannot help yourselves by trying to get a political job that will last you only as long as you bend the knee to the political boss in power, and bury your own political convictions. Take heed of this warning in time; keep out of the A. F. of H—l. Join your new union if you must, but see to it that you own it and not that it owns you as will be the case if you let the dues-hunting fakirs get control.

The Agitator.

"Green Spectacles"

(From the Edinburgh, Scotland, "Socialist.")

When Moses returned from the fair with the gross of green spectacles, for which a reverend-looking rogue had induced him to part with his money; and when the rogue, on the other hand, went his way with the money for which he had given the boy practically nothing; it affected the morality of the transaction but little that the result was obtained by fraud and not by force. To obtain one's neighbor's goods for nothing, or as near that as may be, is a passion of man's heart that has blazed over heaped ruins in the conqueror's track, and has burned numberless holes through the fair embroidery of modern civilization. Among primitive peoples, of whatever age, the matter is one of muscle. Might is right; the calling of the robber is honorable; men recognize

> "The good, old rule, the simple plan,
> That he may take who has the power,
> And he may keep who can."

Civilization, that has changed all this for the individual, must still stand impotently by while nations rob. Yet among individuals robbery has become inconvenient. Law has stepped in with its "Thou shalt not steal;" a man may no longer take by force because he happens to have big muscles, or an expert way with a knife. The Commonwealth has forged for itself a defence, which it calls law, a defence, that, like Fitz-James' blade, is both sword and shield. Before it the individual becomes weak, and if he would have his neighbor's goods for nothing, he must take them by craft. The robber becomes a thief, and exposes himself at once to punishment and contempt.

But still in men there lives the indestructible desire to get something for nothing, to secure the price of some one else's pony in exchange for a few green spectacles, the desire, in short, to live without working. This desire is at the bottom of much of the feverish business of the times. Buyer and seller strain every nerve to outwit one the other. The tradseman fills his shop with customers at his great sales, because the buyers are so anxious to get something for nothing. The manufacturer creates worthless goods that he may sell them cheap; the hawker offers his wares at double their value, that his customer may beat him down to one fourth more than their value. The commercial traveler seeks above all things to persuade his customers to buy what they do not want. Auction rooms are filled with people hungry for a bargain, no matter what poor fellow suffers; and auctioneers will cheerfully knock down a lot at double its value, if they have but the chance. Friends will sit down to a pleasant game on the understanding that the successful player may put his hand in his friend's pocket; or they will agree to mulct or be mulcted, on the running of a horse they have never seen, and do not want to see. In plain fact, they draw lots for the privilege of robbing one another. Yet, shall they be called thieves? But what common thief, taking purses in a crowd, or sneaking into houses by night, can produce such miseries as are in the gambler's home and heart!

The fine, old, country gentleman looks over his hedge. Says he: "This road is most unnecessarily wide. Here you, Jack and Tom, put me up another hedge beyond. That common, too, will be of far more use to me than to those cottagers; I will have a fence right round it." But who shall call the squire a thief! Certainly not his grandson, when he sells the common for eligible villa sites, or the filched strip of roadside to the Country Council:

Since, then, the law, that says: "Thou shalt not steal," both punishes the thief, and brands him with infamy, the self-respecting man, who wishes to take his neighbor's goods for nothing, (and for this let him be called the taker), will naturally object to such awkward consequences. Is there no way out of the dilemma? May he not drive his coach and four through troublesome laws? Has not, in fact, the thing called law become so fearful and complicated a matter, that though it was designed for the punishment of thieves, none but the veriest bunglers and fools need suffer its penalties; the taker, who is a true artist, and who sets about the matter with skill and prudence, will in the law find his very safety; will make the law to aid and abet him; will in the law find his champion, who shall declare the thief an honorable man. For the net of the law has become such a tangled mass of technicalities and precedents, that it will catch the sprat and let the shark go free. Magistrates and judges sit on the bench to administer not justice but law; it is left for Solomons and Eastern Caliphs of the far off times to exhibit the broad principles of equity. Yet the law serves well enough to provide fat incomes for the members of a profession.

The problem, then, for the taker is two-fold: can he take, and still be safe; can he take, and still be honorable, or at least accounted so, which for some is sufficient? Some takers have no hesitation in deciding that, providing they are safe, their honor, like the pounds in the proverb, may take care of itself. They are prepared to traffic in vice, to make game out of the evil passions of their fellows, to excel the common thief, in that not simply do they take their neighbor's goods for nothing, but still better, they take them in return for actual injury inflicted. To pass over grosser forms the bookmaker snaps his fingers in the law's face, and cheerfully pays over the thousand part of his gains in an occasional fine, or chuckles to himself while learned and bewigged judges meet in solemn conclave to discover whatever a place can be. Yet such takes as these have only learnt to be safe, not honorable. But let a man traffic in the vice of drunkenness, how honorable shall he be! Let him produce strong liquor in such quantities as can only feed excess; let him own innumerable liquor shops, and trick them out in all devices to catch the weak and unwary; let him grow rich in exchange for the injury he bestows; and there is no position in his country's service, no honor in his sovereign's bestowal, that shall not be his. The taker has learnt to be safe and honorable. The law cannot touch him, he shall sit in a nation's council and make law.

But takers, who will not soil their fingers with vice, approach the problem, and speedily the broad principle appears, that safety and honor both lie in quantity. The more a man takes, the safer and more honorable shall he be. With what ease and honor shall a statesman steal a country; with what difficulty and ignominy shall the artful dodger filch a pocket handkerchief!

"Does the law say we must not take a man's goods? Then we will take the men themselves."

So the iniquity of slavery, "the sum of all evils," flourishes for centuries under the protection of a law that says, "Thou shalt not steal." But a humaner generation will have none of the slave trade, which is left to the Turk and his like. Then says the taker:

"Does the law say I may not take a man's goods? Then I will have his life. Because he is weak and I am strong, he shall work for me for so many pence a day. Red of eye, pallid of cheek, broken of heart, he shall labor for me the livelong day, from foggy morn to eve; and I will give him, ha, ha! I will give him a few pence, which may perhaps keep body and soul together, though bread is dear, and flesh and blood are cheap.

"Does the law say I may not take a man's goods? Then I will take his fresh air, and water, his sunlight, his home. He shall live in pestilent slums, where the rain shall drip upon his bed, where the floor shall rot beneath his feet; where the abounding physical corruption shall be purity itself to the moral stench of his habitation. And for this he shall pay me rent. Where is the law that shall touch me? The zeal of the reformers shall buy me out for millions; then yonder I will make me another slum.

"Does the law say I must not steal? Then I will float a company. We will have a gold mine, or a railway, or we will buy and sell it matters not what; the shareholders shall be sold. The widow shall bring her mite, the orphan his pittance, the old man his hard earned savings; and I will have them all, ha, ha! My beautiful company shall liquidate; there shall be no assets; and I shall be like the widow. I, too, shall have nothing. Yet I will live in a great house, and have everything heart can desire; for my wife shall be rich; how rich, who can say? The law cannot tell where she got her money, for the law is an ass."

When men have well understood the first principle, that it is safer and more honorable to take much than little, and that the very law itself may be wasted to their protection, they are ready for the second, that, in the service of the law, takers may find some of their finest opportunities. The law appoints its officers to carry out its behests, and to protect honest men. Says the taker:

"Let me be an officer of the law, let me pull a long face, and be loud in my patriotism; let me have to do with army contracts and remounts, with perpetual pensions and sinecures; let me suppress telegrams; let me be a cabinet minister with many directorates; let me make cabinets for my family, and not for my country."

For certainly, passing over the old-time corruption of judge and jury, what opportunities there are for the taker in the service of the State, from the abomination of Tammany down to the blue guardian of the street, who touches his hat to the prosperous rogue, and hustles the outcast that will not submit to his will!

First the taker wrenches to his protection the law designed for his punishment; next, as that law's servant, he administers it corruptly; and, last of all, as a legislator, he makes corrupt laws. Why should not a parliament of capitalists make laws in favor of trusts and gold mines, and against trades unions! Why should not a parliament of priests, in the sacred name of Education, exploit the taxation of the people for the benefit of their sect! Why should not a parliament of landlords make laws for themselves!

"Is it not enough for the man in the street that he may walk in the street! May he not look at our fields, may he not pay us rent for his bit of a house! Ha, ha! he labors and we enjoy."

How the big town grows on the marshy river banks! How the barren and worthless swamps grow in value to a fabulous price; how merchants plan great things; how keen the sons of toil labor; how the poor agonize; how the wilderness becomes a mighty city; what a wonder is this they have wrought with sinews, with brain, with tears! Then comes the landlord, who has not touched their burden with one of his fingers.

"The city you have build," says he, "is mine; this unearned increment is mine; it is for me you have wept and labored and thought. I will be a great prince, you shall touch your hats as I go by, but I will still let you live in my city, and breathe my air, if you will pay for it, a little more, and yet a little more.

"What does the laborer want with lands? Is not 50 cents a day enough for him, with a comfortable workhouse at last, if he lives long enough? How can I dwell alone in the land, and add field to field, and house to house, if Jack, Tom and Harrey have their beggarly allotments here, and their beggarly cottages there, spoiling my sport, breaking the contour of my estate, interfering with my view? Bah! What is Naboth to me! Take him out and stone him!"

Trades Unionism in the United States

A pamphlet by Justus Ebert, New York City, which gives an historical glimpse of the development of the principles and spirit of American trades unionism, from the earliest times to the present day. The object of the pamphlet is set forth in the following "Foreword," at the beginning of its pages:

"The question of trades unionism is one of great importance. The organizations of men employed at trades figure largely in the economics and politics of the day. Their principles and control have become a matter of tremendous social significance. This applies not only to the present forms of society, but those of the future as well. Trade unions are either the bulwarks of capitalism or the rudimentary framework of Socialism.

"A question so pregnant with significance is worthy of study. Emerson says: 'Man is explicable by nothing else than all his history.' So with trades unionism. The best study of trades unionism in the United States is all of its history. It will be the object of this paper to furnish a glimpse of this history in order that interest in the study of American trades unionism may be stimulated and the extent of its profundity realized. As the word implies, the glimpse will necessarily be brief, including in its sweep only typical instances of progress, both upward and downward."

The student desiring a concise statement of the underlying principles and spirit of the Knights of Labor, the American Federation of Labor, the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and the American Labor Union will find them in this pamphlet. Price 5 cents.

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John Mitchell Exposed

BY

ROBERT RANDELL

The President of the United Mine Workers' Union, John Mitchell, is a labor leader widely known, a leader who has been almost idolized by many workingmen believing him to be the foremost defender of labor's cause, and we would it were true. But far from being the true guardian of labor's interests, Mitchell has betrayed vast armies of strikers to disastrous defeat. In these addresses, Randell, a member of the United Mine Workers, lays bare Mitchell's autocratic and traitorous conduct in the Colorado-Utah strike of 1903-4, and also his infamous connection with the National Civic Federation. This is a valuable lesson in the methods of the lieutenants of capital as labor leaders. The "Two Pages from Roman History," read by the light of this expose, will be better comprehended.

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OGDEN, UTAH

Its Development and Labor Situation, As Seen by A Socialist Party Member.

Ogden, Utah, May 4.—As your correspondent alighted from a side door Pullman and gazed for the first time in eighteen months at Ogden and its adjacent mountains, he was soon satisfied that the geography was the same as ever, and, feeling a patriotic relief that the recent terrific windstorm had done no further damage to "his country" than to unroof John Scocroft's towering warehouse, he proceeded to gather intelligence as follows: Shortly after the removal into the new S. P. Co. machine shop a year ago and the near completion of the Ogden-Lucin cut off, the working time was reduced from 70 hours per week and overtime, to 53½ hours and no overtime. The new shop has pits for ten locomotives and is equipped with an electric traveling crane capable of lifting the largest locomotives bodily. The Engineering Maazine is authority for the statement that these cranes often pay for themselves in labor time in six months.

The gasoline Motor Car No. 1, which the daily press is just now busily exploiting, was run into the shop last evening for a few trivial repairs. She is a trim little four-wheeled car about eighteen feet long: the front is pointed like the bow of a boat. The machinery is contained in the front half, the rear being fitted for passengers. While in the "hospital" the engine gave vent to a series of loud reports like artillery fire, and, with the addition of armor and a turret the car would look and sound like a dealer of the "rifle diet" to the working class.

The performance of the H. P. "Deisel" motor in the Ogden Shops is significant of the possibilities of this power for locomotion. The Deisel has no sparker to get out of order, requires no oiler, no fireman and no highly skilled engineer. Barring a flaw which resulted in a broken crank shaft, this motor has run continuously day and night for over a year. The trifling cost of operation compared with steam or electricity is almost beyond belief. Oil for power costs a fraction less than ten cents per hour, lubrication costs three cents and wages 20 cents, making a total of thirty-three cents per hour for 75 H. P., or three cents less than the wages of a machinist at this point.

Should this power find any practical application to locomotives it is doutful whether or not it will take precedence over electricity and steam. With electricity, oil engines, reductions of railway grades, turbine ocean liners and other cut offs of labor and skill, it is only a question of a little time before great numbers of engineers, machinists, boilermakers and other aristocrats of labor join the subway strikers in the loss of caste.

A conservative estimate places the number of train and engine crews displaced by the Ogden Lucin cut off at about 20. The wear and tear on rolling stock is much less over the new route, the time and fuel are also reduced. Sometime ago the officers and shops of the Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and Oregon Short line were consolidated into one with the resulting benefits of centralized operation.

In the light of these facts it is not surprising that a considerable reduction of force was made last month and that the streets are continually crowded with unemployed workingmen. A recent addition to the loafing places is a full fledged Salvation Army Soup and Bunk House.

Yesterday at 5 P. M. the "Business Men's League" of Denver arrived and, accompanied by a brass band, they marched to the Reed Hotel. Here the crowd listened to several talks. After much hot air, locally and from Denver, during which these exploiters of labor furnished their own applause for the statement "We are developing the West" and similar time worn jokes, the disciples of Peabodyism went on their way rejoicing. During the march a sacriligious individual shouted "what's the matter with Peabody!"

Ogden favors municipal ownership of public utilities not along the "impossibilist" lines of the Socialist Labor Party but on the strictly "possible" lines of reform. As the advocates of "possibilist" municipalization say little of its practical operation, let us peer through the cracks of a high board fence in the City Square near the police station. Within this enclosure you can see men making large stones small and small stones smaller. This is a bona fide municipal plant for the punishment of men who are guilty of the crime of having "no visible means of support." "Men of thought, men of action" cease to prate of "possibilism" and rally round the press and banner of the fighting Socialist Labor Party for the abolition of the capitalist regime and the establishment of the Socialist Republic.

Socialist Party Member.

On the Chicago Manifesto

[These columns are open for the discussion to Party members and non- Party members alike.]

I.

From E. E. Rounier, Member Socialist Labor Party.

Chinese Camp, Cal., March 17. —It seems as if some of the writers on the Manifesto are getting out of bounds. The constitution of the Socialist Labor Party designates any union not under control of the party as pure and simple, and as the Socialist Labor Party insists that the economic organization must be controlled by the political one, how can it consistently allow the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance to assist in launching a new labor union, which the Socialist Labor Party will most likely have to combat later on?

A green humane farmer brought a stiff, frozen rattle-snake in and placed it under the kitchen stove. In a few minutes he was after it with a club. Are we sure this will not be a snake story? This new union cannot be controlled by the Socialist Labor Party as it not to be affiliated with any political party.

Is it consistent for Socialist Labor Party members to start a union in which they are not permitted to hold office?

One party member suggests that Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance delegates to the convention offer certain resolutions which seems to me also out of place, as such a course has the traits of boring from within, an enterprise that resulted in the mud cure being given to some of the bright evening stars of the "Socialist" party constellation in the American Federation of Labor at San Francisco.

Let the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance go to the convention in its every day clothes and try to win it or part of it over. If successful, the Simonses, Untermans, and a raft of played-out fossils, who have so successfully impeded the progress of the Socialist movement for lo! these many years, will keep their places. If unsuccessful retire in the usual Socialist Labor Party manner. "I'll none of it," says Macbeth. Better be "pirates from without" than borers from within.

II.

From A. J. Boland, Member Socialist Labor Party and Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

Jersey City, N. J., March 27.—Except by those in revolt against it, no progress is possible for the "Labor" or "Socialist" movement, until the cancer of trade autonomy, or competition for capitalist jobs, is removed—not a matter of being sincere, but one requiring action based on common sense.

III.

From I. Israelstrom, Member of The Transvaal Socialist Labor Party.

Johannesburg, South Africa, March 1.—I am greatly surprised to see The People booming the convention called for next June in Chicago. Those people who called the convention know the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, and if they would be in earnest they would all join the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance and the Socialist Labor Party. It is my opinion also that Frank Bohn had no right whatsoever to lend his name to the convention without first asking the consent of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance. Are the comrades of the Socialist Labor Party going to join hands with those who have been branded as fakirs and fools? The answer, I hope, will be no.

IV.

From M. E. Kleiminger, Member Socialist Labor Party.

Chicago, Ill., March 27.—In regard to the June conference: the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance should not compromise in any manner, shape or form, as the "no-political-action-for-the-rank-and-file" Anarchists, a la Quinn Municipal- Ownership- American- Federation-of-Labor vote catcher for capitalism will be there; as will also one D. C. Coates, President of the American Labor Union, by a recent referendum vote, a splendid "workingman's friend," a la Colorado. When the capitalist papers flatter a labor leader he is a tool of the capitalist class.

Let us have a Socialist trade union and grow as class conscious Socialists are made. We should positively make no compromise on economic or political lines with the Bergers, Hayeses, Simons and Untermans. They are compromisers and muddle-heads. The Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance will live in spite of the Morgans, Steadmans, Jonases, Hilquits and others that are traitors to the working classes. Send your delegates to the June convention—the cream of the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance—and make these compromisers and traitors cringe. The time for playing is over. The time for action has come.

V.

From Max Stern, Member of the Socialist Labor Party and of the Hungarian Socialist Federation.

Schenecdaty, N. Y., April 3.—Many objections are raised against the clause in the Chicago Manifesto which declares: "The organization should not be affiliated with a political party." To the objecters, this seems to be a contradiction to that part of the document, which declares, that the organization of Labor should be based upon the class struggle, and its aim should be the coöperative commonwealth.

Now, I ask the objecters, whether it is absolutely necessary, that a revolutionary movement, which the coming organization promises to be, must be affiliated with a political party? What are political parties? Are they not institutions of the capitalist system, which that very revolutionary movement seeks to overthrow? A political party can accomplish its aims only, if it rolls up enough votes at the ballot box.

Now, the ballot box being a capitalist institution, the ruling class, the capitalist class, can make a political party ineffective, especially such as goes against the very life of that class.

The capitalist class, having the political and economic power in its hands, could disfranchise the workers, when they become revolutionary, by means of the existing laws. They could force the workingmen to leave their residences, and be disfranchised, by moving their industrial establishments, from one place to the other. It is not even necessary to move their plants. An industrial corporation like the U. S. Steel Company, the American Locomotive Company, the General Electric Company and many others, having plants in different parts of the country, all they would have to do, is, move their men. Or they could a few months before election day close their factories, and the workingmen, on the average, being thirty days from the poorhouse, would have to apply for public charity, which fact would reduce them to paupers, and paupers have no votes in many states. They could prevent foreigners, whom they think are revolutionary, from becoming naturalized citizens. Or they could prevent a revolutionary party altogether from coming on the official ballot. Witness the late decision of the courts in Chicago, and other places. How do we stand in the State of New York now? We could come on the official ballot only by the grace of capitalist politicians. I, for one would object of coming on the official ballot if we must stoop down to crooked capitalist politicians and ask them for favors.

It is true, that the action at the ballot box would be a legal action, but a revolutionary movement could not tie itself down to the "legal" path that the ruling class proscribes; if it does, it's bound to be shipwrecked. Witness the "legal" action of the Hungarian Revolutionists in the Revolution of 1848 (see "Revolution and Counter Revolution in Germany" by Karl Marx), or the "legal" demonstration of the Mountani, against the illegal action of the ruling class in France after the July Revolution in 1848, (see "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte" by Karl Marx) or the "honest" attitude of the Communists towards the Bank of France (see "History of the Paris Commune" by Lissagaray). A revolutionary movement must make its own laws and institutions without regard to the laws created by the ruling class.

The economic and political superstructure of the revolutionary Socialist movement is the industrial union, and when the working class, the only useful and potent factor in society, thoroughly organized in the industrial union, will in the Industrial Assembly declare for the Socialist Republic, what need we care, whether the useless, impotent, parasitical Capitalist Class recognizes this action or not? Did the "Third Estate", the then useful and potent factor in society, care whether the useless, impotent and parasitical feudalist class recognized its action in the National Assembly, during the French Revolution?

By reading history and studying S. L. P. literature and closely observing the political movements, I came to the conclusion, that hoping to carry through the Social Revolution at the capitalist ballot box, is a snare and a delusion. My conclusions might be wrong. If they are, comrades will be found to set me right. If they are right, I hope comrades will be found to improve on my arguments, and when the June convention will come there would be no objections to that "no political party" affiliation clause. I should move, that not only the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, but the Socialist Labor Party also, not as a political party, but as a revolutionary working class movement, should send delegates to the convention.

CLASSES

Do They Exist, And Are They Fixed, In This Country?

Our friend, the local Socialist who is studying American economic evolution, true to his promise, is on hand with a "write-up" of another of the "impartial" studies of Socialism and Social Questions written during the decade of 1880-1890. This time the book bears the ponderous title of "Principles and Fallacies of Socialism". It is by David J. Hill, "President of the University at Lewisburg"; and "designed," according to the preface, "as a compendious statement of the principles and fallacies of Socialism as popularly presented in this country."

It is difficult to handle this "compendious statement" with a straight face; it is so pretentious, contradictory and ridiculous. It would be in keeping with the fate it deserves, to leave it in the obscurity to which it has fallen, were it not that quite a few arguments are presented which still do duty, with and without qualification, even at this late date. For instance, we have here the argument that "There are no classes at all' in this country. Then the author proceeds to demonstrate the fact by showing that any workingman by saving his wages, can become a property owner and capitalist. One wonders why, if "there are no classes at all" in this country, a workingman should find it necessary to save in order to become a property owner and capitalist. The whole argument—whether consciously or unconsciously presented, makes no difference—implies a change from one class to another via the stocking or the savings bank. So that, in the last analysis it defeats its own purpose, and provokes a smile at its "profoundity".

Of course, the argument that any workingman can become a property owner and capitalist by saving, has its obverse side. This degrades the spendrift and unsuccessful property owner and capitalist to the inferior economic position of the propertiless workingman and slum proletarian. From the obverse and the reverse of this argument, we get the modern qualification of the "there-are-no-classes-at-all"-in-this-country idea. According to this qualification, since there is a constant flux and reflux from Working Class to Capitalist Class, it can not be said that there are FIXED classes in this country. This is very much like saying that because there is a constant passing of men and women from New York to New Jersey, it can not be said that New York and New Jersey are FIXED places. If the capitalist and the working classes are not FIXED classes how is it possible to pass from the one to the other? Of such dialectical stuff is the no-FIXED-classes argument made.

An appeal from dialectics to statistics will show an ever-growing working class to a relatively smaller capitalist class; so that even if we turn from abstract reason to concrete fact, the fixity of classes, especially the working class, in this country, cannot be denied or explained away.

Having thus considered the "there-are-no-classes-at-all"-in-this-country, with its modern qualification, "there are no FIXED classes in this country", our local Socialist turns to another venerable "chestnut" in President Hill's compendium, which is also doing duty at the present time, with and without variation or modification. It is as follows:

"American Socialism is an importation. It is not indigenous to our soil and does not take root here readily. There are, nevertheless, numerous Socialists in our country, but they also like their doctrines, are importations. Socialism and Democracy are incompatible, and we have elsewhere shown why they are. Socialism has never spontaneously appeared under Republican institutions. It is a product of imperialism, deriving its impulses from the oppression, and its form from the organization, of an imperial government."

At this date, with leading historians noting the European origin of American political and industrial institutions and people, and referring to this country as an "expanded Europe" as a consequence, this argument sounds extremely amusing. And one has only to look into American social literature of the decade of 1880-1890 to realize the humor of presenting it even then. De Tocqueville, Herbert Spencer and the lasse faire school of philosophers and economists are extensively quoted in order to combat Socialism! Think of it, the patriots, in denouncing "foreign importations", were compelled to import their denunciations! And they are doing the same thing today, as the English translations of French and German anti-Socialist works abundantly prove. On the other hand, it was during the decade of 1880-1890 that Prof. R. T. Ely's valuable book of "The Labor Movement In America", appeared. It shows Socialism to be as decidedly indigenous as any American institution can possibly be.

But the trouble with our learned friend, and all his modern compeers is, that they look upon Socialism as being primarily political, whereas Socialism is primarily economic. Socialism has to do with the steady evolution from private and competing capital to collective capital that is hastening the class conflict and the abolition of wage slavery. In no place in the world is the evolution from private to collective capital, with all its attendant phenomena, so peculiar to the soil, as in this country. In no other country of the world is the trust so powerful, the class conflict so fierce and the development of true Socialism so steady and inevitable, as a consequence. America is the land of Socialism. Even our orthodox alarmists confess as much when they claim that the trusts must be curbed or SOCIALISM IS BOUND TO COME. 'Rah for Socialism, which goes right on despite the trust "curbers" and "impartial" expounders and propounders of "principles and fallacies."

More next week!

MANHATTAN'S PUSH-CART MEN.

The local police are taking a census of pushcart men. It reveals some interesting facts, and suggests more interesting possibilities. There are ten thousand licensed pushcart peddlers and a vast number not licensed. This number of men together with their dependents would make a city the size of Binghamton, N. Y. Some 5481 of these carts are owned by members of the Peddlers' Union. Carts are rented out for 10 cents a day by a union of pushcart stable keepers. One of the latter derives an income of $600 a week from this source. Thus pushcart peddling presents combination, concentration and exploitation. The pushcart men sell a great variety of commodities, among them being such articles as soap, toys, glass globes, general hardware, pickles, shoes, knee pants, slippers, books, jewelry, etc. This brings the pushcart man into competition with the small store-keeper. As a result the latter is up in arms against him, and is seeking to have him suppressed. It is interesting to imagine what would be the ultimate result of the unrestricted growth of the pushcart men. As the rental of carts at ten cents a day shows, the pushcart men are often propertiless workingmen forced into peddling as a means of livelihood. Many of them hope to be become small storekeepers and finally great merchant princes—these are the logical steps in the evolution of the more fortunate of their members. But most of them remain the prey of the pushcart renters and the grafting police, by whom they are bled and treated worse than dogs. Economically below the working and middle classes, the pushcart men, with all their tendencies and opposition, present an interesting economic phenomenon.

THE MODERN STATE.

(Continued from page 1.)

the regulation and management of the economic mechanism; and ever stronger are the means placed at its disposal and employed by it in the fulfillment of this function. The economic omnipotence of the State, which appeared in the "Manchester School" as a Socialist Utopia, has developed under the very nose of that school into an inevitable result of the capitalist system of production itself, and without which the capitalist system could not maintain itself.

FORR "DER ARBEITER."

Entertainment and Ice Cream Social Arranged for Its Benefit Next Sunday.

In Ice Cream Social and Entertainment has been arranged by the Progressive Socialist Club for the benefit of "Der Arbeiter," the Jewish organ of the Socialist Labor Party. The affair will be held Sunday, May 21, 8 p. m., at 235 East Broadway.

Good talent will appear and a pleasant and enjoyable evening is assured to all who attend. Admission, including refreshments, will be fifteen cents.

It is hoped that all those having the welfare of "Der Arbeiter" at heart will come to this affair and bring their friends with them. The committee in charge of the event is doing everything in its power to make it a success. Do your share and show your appreciation of "Der Arbeiter's" efforts in teaching clear-cut Socialism.

The Committee.

THE PILGRIM'S SHELL
—OR—
FERGAN THE QUARRYMAN

By Eugene Sue.
Translated By Daniel De Leon.

283 pp., on fine book paper, cloth 75 cents.

This great historical story by the eminent French writer is one of the majestic series that cover the leading and successive episodes of the history of the human race. The novel treats of the feudal system, the first Crusade and the rise of the Communes in France. It is the only translation into English of this masterpiece of Sue.

The New York Sun says:

Eugene Sue wrote a romance which seems to have disappeared in a curious fashion, called "Les Mysteres du Peuple." It is the story of a Gallic family through the ages, told in successive episodes, and, so far as we have been able to read it, is fully as interesting as "The Wandering Jew" or "The Mysteries of Paris." The French edition is pretty hard to find, and only parts have been translated into English. We don't know the reason. One medieval episode, telling of the struggle of the communes for freedom, is now translated by Mr. Daniel De Leon, under the title "The Pilgrim's Shell" (New York Labor News Co.). We trust the success of his effort may be such as to lead him to translate the rest of the romance. It will be the first time the feat has been done in English.

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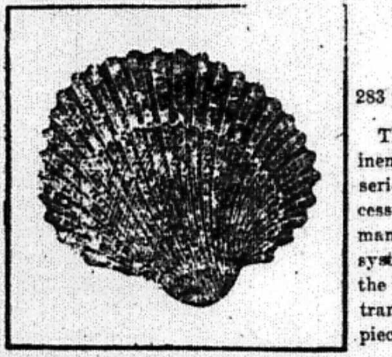

The Gold Sickle;
...OR...
Hena the Virgin of the Isle of Sen.

By EUGENE SUE.

Translated from the original French
By DANIEL DE LEON.

This story is the first of the gems in the necklace of gems that Eugene Sue felicitously named "The Mysteries of the People; or The History of a Proletarian Family Across the Ages." It is a story of Druid Gaul, captivating in its simplicity and superbly preluding the grand drama that is gradually unfolded from story to story, ending in the great French Revolution.

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Published Every Saturday by the Socialist Labor Party.

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Owing to the limitations of this office, correspondents are requested to keep a copy of their articles, and not to expect them to be returned. Consequently, no stamps should be sent for return.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1904	34,172

While the flag with stars bedecked
Threatens where it should protect,
And the Law shakes hands with Crime,
What is left us but to wait,
Match our patience to our fate
And abide the better time?
—Whittier.

ROOSEVELT RUNNING TO SEED.

In the course of his speech at the banquet tendered to him in Chicago by the Iroquois Club on the 10th instant, President Roosevelt said:

"Among the most vital questions that have come up for solution because of the extraordinary industrial development of this country, as of all the modern world, are the questions of capital and labor, and the questions resulting from the effect upon the public of the organization into great masses of both capital and labor. I believe thoroughly in each kind of organization. but I recognize that if either kind of organization does what is wrong the increase in its power for efficiency that has resulted from the combination means the increase in its power to do harm; and that, therefore, corporation, that is, organized capital, and union, that is, organized labor, must alike be held to a peculiar responsibility to the public at large, and that from each alike we have the right to demand not only obedience to the law but service to the public."

Such "ideas" are as stale as the morning lees of a debauch. They even lack originality of wording.

In capitalist society there is but one organization that has the power—Capital. All other organizations can only be subsidiary to it. It alone is "right", it alone is "lawful", and when it should happen that its conduct does not square with the law that may happen to exist, then, so much the worse for that law; it is suspended de facto. And the President himself, as the present visible head of capitalist society, has in his conduct illustrated the point again, and again, and yet again. On the other hand, Labor is "wrong" the moment it proposes anything that runs against the grain of Capital. So long as Labor is willing to subserve Capital, Capital has no objection to Labor's organizations; on the contrary, Capital rather likes them. In the language of the President, Capital (meaning, of course, the Capitalist Class) "believes in Unions"—but then Unions must "believe in it"; the instant they show that they do not "believe in Capital" that instant they "come within law"—whether actually written or not—the tacit, latent law that decrees slavery to the Working Class, masterhood to the capitalist spoliator.

The President must be running to seed. He has lost the wit, the only wit he ever had, of clothing Nonsense in the sparkling garb of insolent Ignorance.

EAST AND WEST.

Would you like to know the reason of an aspiration? then look down below the surface and ascertain the material interests that serve for its foundation. So likewise, and for identical reason, would you like to know the nature of a political party that sails under the colors of Socialism? then look below the surface of platform declamations, and find out what is the economic organization upon which that political party is founded.

During the late Interborough strike in this city, when Grand Chief Stone atrociously betrayed the outraged employes of the Interborough by falsely announcing that they had broken their contract and that he would have their charter revoked, a motion was made at the General Committee of the Social Democratic party of this city to hold an indignation meeting to denounce Stone's act of treachery. The motion was howled down as "De Leonism" (a true charge); and who was it that led in the denunciation of the proposed motion?—the delegate of the Metal Workers to the Central Federated Union, who is of course a leading Social Democrat and member of the said General Committee.—That was in New York. The curtain drops. The scene changes, and the curtain rises again in Chicago at the national headquarters of the said Social Democratic alias "Socialist" party.

That party's national executive committee is in session. A communication is read from the State Secretary of Wyoming suggesting Robert Randell for organizer. Randell, as the readers of The People will remember, was the delegate to the recent United Mine Workers' convention who unmasked the misdeeds of Mitchell. With facts uncontrovertible, with reasoning cogent and unassailable, Randall proved Mitchell a labor lieutenant of the capitalist class, pestilential to the Working Class. The application in favor of Randell was of the nature of the motion made in New York to hold indignation meetings against Stone. The application met the fate of the motion. It was denied on the ground that "the qualifications urged in favor of Randell are not sufficient to secure appointment as an organizer." And upon whose motion was it that Randell was declared disqualified?—It was upon the motion of Barney Berlyn, a member of Gompers' Cigarmakers' Union, whose horizon is bounded by the death benefit which he expects from his Union, in other words, whose horizon is bounded by his coffin!

These two instances furnish cumulative evidence of the fact that the so-called Socialist, alias Social Democratic party is but a whiff, a breath, aye, a mephitic exhalation of that wheel in the mechanism of capital known as the American Federation of Labor, and consequently that its policy is, if not dictated, at any rate materially influenced by the leading national labor lieutenants of the capitalist class. A denunciation of Stone in New York was injurious to the labor lieutenant of capitalism who presides over the Metal Workers' Union; a denunciation of Mitchell, as would be implied by the appointment of Randall, would be injurious to the labor lieutenants of capitalism who preside over the Cigarmakers' Union; as such the one thing and the other would affect injuriously the obscene interests of the Berlyns, to whom it matters little how Labor fares, provided there is no injury done to their own coffins.

East and West, North and South the same instances recur constantly. Labor fakirism is the material foundation of the so-called Socialist, alias Social Democratic, alias Public Ownership party.—Like foundation, like superstructure.

NOT ONE MISSING.

The papers in the suit of Mrs. Mary S. Young against the Equitable Life Assurance Society and all the fifty directors of the concern are something of infinitely more weight than more papers in a suit; they constitute a veritable page in the history of our days; they are part of the individual and collective biography of the "Captains of Industry", the "Pillars of Law, Order and Morality" of capitalist society. Hitherto such revelations concerned only one or two of the "Pillars." Now it concerns a whole bunch of them; the inquiry into the whereabouts of a certain $10,000,000 will trace the "graft" into the pockets of some of these sacred "Pillars", and exhibit the utter nonetitiness of some others of these pretentious "captains"; the one and the other will stand fully pilloried—and thereby the true quality of every single prominence in the capitalist upper tier. Not a department of political or economic endeavor on the part of these worthies but is represented on the list of defendants.

The department of the false pretence of improving the police is represented by the law-breaker Jacob A. Schiff.

The department of fleecing Western miners and then pulling political wires to get them locked up in iron cages is represented by Darius O. Mills.

The department of rack-renting tenants and then fishing for a royal wife in Europe is represented by John Jacob Astor.

The department of shaking the fist under sheriffs' noses to compel them, against their judgment, to apply to the Governor for the militia to break the strikes initiated by railroad men to uphold the law, is represented by George J. Gould.

The department of failing in business and forthwith starting a bank is represented by Levi P. Morton.

The department of serving as a "wage slave" by voting to oneself $50,000 salaries out of the plunder levied on the workers is represented by Chauncey M. Depew.

The department of affecting municipal purity and practising impurity on a State and National scale is represented by Alexander J. Cassatt.

The department of affecting democratic principles so as to wheedle wealth enough from the pockets of the workers to purchase European "noblemen" as relatives is represented by Alfred G. Vanderbilt.

The department of debauching labor leaders so as to have the rank and file of the Working Class by the throat is represented by Gompers's president, August Belmont of the Civic Federation.

The department of acquiring wealth by dint of the "arduous toil and enterprise" of traveling upon a father's name is represented by Robert T. Lincoln.

And so all along the line—fifty of them in a bunch—the cream of the "400"—the very heads of the many-headed ulcer called capitalist society—not one is missing.

THREE BITS OF NEWS.

Carping critics, who may have read the "Inside Story of the Great (Chicago teamsters) Strike Suppressed by Dailies" in the May 6 issue of the Toledo, O., "Socialist," may be inclined to grumble. It would be just like them to say that they were inveigled into wading through two long double-columns by the scarlet type that headed the article and promised to give them inside facts "suppressed by dailies"; it would be just like them to say that they expected a bushel of items of brand new information, whereas all they got was just three bits of news not found anywhere else. Such would be the conduct of carping critics; but fair-minded critics, especially intelligent critics will not carp. They know that the value of information depends not upon the quantity but upon the quality; although, in point of quantity, three items of news may not be as many as thirty, they know that three valuable items of information are worth more than thirty trashy ones; and, finally, they are thoroughly thankful to the Toledo, O., "Socialist" for the three bits of news that it has ransomed from the oblivion to which the suppressive dailies sought to consign them. The three items are veritable little grains of gold.

The first is that a stray cur, that stood near Mr. William M. Maily, the "staff correspondent" of the Toledo paper, "ran off yelping after gazing at the strike-breakers"—mind you, not that a cur could, would or should conduct himself in that intelligent fashion at the sight of the depraved wretches whom capitalism took to Chicago to down workingmen with, but that the animal did actually "run off yelping"; the second ingot of news is that the sweat-shop is abolished in Chicago, as appears from the passage that, if the Garment Workers, whom to support the teamsters are out on strike, lose, "the sweat-shop would again be their fate": one does not fall "again" into a fate unless the fate had ceased to be; finally, the third weighty bit of information is that the generous financial support, which some Unions are giving the striking teamsters, and which other Unions have promised, is "a test of INDUSTRIAL Unionism," and an indication of the development toward "INDUSTRIAL organization." (Ours is the underscoring.)

As to the first of these three items of news, it may be left aside. It does not exactly belong in the domain of the Social Question. Interesting though it is as an instance of canine sagacity, it is a digression, a sort of excursion indulged in by the "staff correspondent" into the realm of zoology. The two other items are, however, of social import.

As to the news that the sweat-shop has been abolished in Chicago it is a child begotten of the identical father and mother that beget the periodical "victories" that Gompers boasts about. It is twin brother or sister to the recent "victory" of the cap-makers, who struck for the "closed shop," had to submit to a contract that expressly establishes the "open shop," and are now boomed by Gompers as "triumphant." It is a Western echo of the oft-repeated Barondess song of triumph here in the East, where the sweat-shop is "abolished" or is "in existence," according as the financial needs of Mr. Barondess and his lawyer partners may dictate. In short, the news item is one of those atrocious lies, that fakirs invent and feather-brained "intellectuals" repeat—greatly to the confusion of information on the situation of Labor.

Finally, the news that the support given to the strikers is an evidence of "INDUSTRIAL Unionism," caps the climax. If the financial support received by the teamsters is "industrialism," then, what else but industrialism was the phenomenon presented by the bituminous wing of Mitchell's miners Union, when that wing remained at work furnishing coal to the market, but religiously paid a strike assessment in order to keep the anthracite wing of the Union on strike and not producing coal?

One can understand how the Chicago dailies, being greatly bothered by the strike, have no mind for observations in the canine world, and that the remarkable instance of the cur, described by the "staff correspondent," escaped the dailies, without any willful intent to "suppress" on their part.

One can also understand how it happens that the Chicago dailies say nothing about the sweat-shop being abolished in Chicago. They surely are not likely to raise an impious hand against such a flourishing capitalist industry of their city as garment making. To announce to the world that the sweat-shop is abolished in their city would "frighten away capital." So they keep quiet and conceal, aye, suppress the fact which the "staff correspondent" sleuth has unearthed and announced to the world.

But what passeth understanding is the silence on the part of the Chicago dailies on the development of INDUSTRIAL Unionism, as manifested by the Unions that remain at work and thereby support the very system, in several instances, the very parties, that they financially support the teamsters to strike against—just as the Mitchell-inspired bituminous miners did. More than once has attention been called in these columns to the circumstance that what is called the "conversion of Clovis to Christianity," was, in fact, the "conversion of Christianity to Clovis." The bloodthirsty Frankish barbarian enjoyed, after his conversion, an advantage that he lacked before—the cloak of the Church for his misdeeds. And, so, nothing could or should suit the capitalist class better than to have the cloak of INDUSTRIALISM thrown over the identical impotent, blind style of blows that Labor has hitherto aimed at the exploiter, and which, however annoying to the latter, have served as the orchestration and pantomime to the tune and performance of which the capitalist class has become ever mightier, the working class ever weaker. How comes it that the wide-awake dailies of Chicago allowed the Toledo "staff correspondent" to "beat" them out of this gem of a "news" item? That passeth understanding.

SAMMY AND MAXY.

A titanic struggle is going on in the land. Mr. Samuel Gompers and Mr. Max Hayes are making each other's fur fly. The former charges the latter with affiliation in a political party that seeks to destroy the American Federation of Labor; the latter charges the former with lying. Strange as it may sound, both combatants are right, and both are wrong.

However numerous were the "intellectual" elements to whom the Socialist Labor Party offered no opportunity for vainglorious stage strutting, and who about five years ago foregathered to "smash" the Socialist Labor Party, they did not furnish the organized body that was to do the job. The organized body was furnished by the labor-lieutenants of the Capitalist Class—Mr. Gompers, for short; say, Sammy, as a collective term. In they sailed. The Kangaroo conspiracy was the result. It drew in all the American Federation of Labor placemen. Partly scared for their jobs, partly following their own unclean bents, they flocked to the Sammy standard. Mr. Hayes, for short; say, Maxy, as a collective term, was among the lot, and they were received with open arms, and given additional jobs by Sammy, and ordered to "sail in." They did. They did their best. But their best fell far short of the job that they undertook to put through. The Socialist Labor Party was not smashed, could not be smashed. To kick at it was to kick against pricks. Matters were even worse. Maxy, ever true to her contract, and in no way deserting the Sammy standard, found herself driven by the whip of the Socialist Labor Party, and had to hold Socialist Labor Party language here and there; and thus, the conspiracy of Sammy against Socialism turned into a promotion of the very thing that was to be "smashed."

In view of this, Sammy charges Maxy's party with seeking to kill the American Federation of Labor. Obviously Sammy is right and wrong. He is wrong when he implies that Maxy is doing the thing on purpose; he is even cruel in his charge, because the charge implies no sympathy for Maxy's lacerated back, lacerated by the whip of the Socialist Labor Party that drives her to serve God while meaning to serve the Devil. But again, Sammy is right. One grain of sense, one S. L. P. word, does more for Socialism than all the anti-Socialist Labor Party vituperation that, obedient to contract, Maxy indulges in. And so it happens that Sammy feels the ground-swell of Socialism, and that, of course means death to all organizations that claim to be of Labor and that preach "Brotherhood of Capital and Labor."

Inversely Maxy is wrong and right when she retorts to Sammy with: "You lie!" She is wrong because, as shown above, she has been compelled to use S. L. P. language, and what that means everybody knows. On the other hand she is right, because, without intent there is no crime.

And so the two are at it, and may they never let up. Nor could they, even if they would. The Socialist Labor Party will see to that. The sight is inspiring. It is inspiring to see Sammy hoisted by his own petard; it is as inspiring to see Maxy tangled up in her own meshes.

Parry's "Industrial Independent" seems to be trying to outdo "Puck" and "Life" as humorous publications. Its issue for May contains the following:

"The Socialists are greatly divided and the leaders are calling one another names. For example, Mr. Berger, of Milwaukee, who believes in the evolutionary kind of Socialism, has no use for Haywood, Trautman and others, who would have Socialism by inaugurating a sudden and 'bloody' revolution. The New York People, of very radical opinions, is fighting another organ of the sect: 'The Appeal to Reason.' These schisms might be expected of a party of dreamers. The more power they attain the greater will be their differences. The real trouble for the Socialists comes when they attempt to put their ideas into effect. Their theories are not workable and harmony cannot be preserved."

The humor of this paragraph lies in the implication contained in its conclusion, to wit, Capitalism is practical because its theories are workable and its leaders never fight!!! It requires a humorist to say this, while Russian and Japanese capitalism are slaughtering hundreds of thousands in the struggle for markets! A sublime sense of humor could only give birth to such a joke, while Messrs. Morgan, Rockefeller and Harriman have their hands at each other's throats in the fight for control of the Equitable's millions! A fine appreciation of the funny was necessary to pen those lines while the President is denouncing railroads and trusts, and they are giving him the retort courteous. And then think of the sense of the incongruous required to express such jocose opinions while Parry himself never misses an opportunity to make Ralph Easley's Civic-Federation-fur fly! How expressive of "harmony" their exchanges of opinion are!! Ralph Easley's "Boycotts of the Anti-Boycotters," is especially illustrative of their complete affection and accord.

But all joking aside—Parry's trouble consists of his inability to see below the surface of things. Capitalists agree in sustaining the essence of Capitalism—the exploitation of labor—despite their differences. In this does their strength consist. So with the Socialists. They are agreed on the essence of Socialism, viz: the social ownership and operation of capital, despite all other differences. It is this that makes them the terror of Parry, and the target of his keen (sic) wit!

The West Hoboken, N. J., "Socialist Review", organ of the "Socialist", alias Social Democratic, alias Public Ownership party, for May, remarks with owl-like sapience:

"There appears to be a concensus of opinion in regard to the need of industrial union. The only question under consideration is, How can it be brought about?"

That no such concensus of opinion appears among New Jersey "Socialists", the following from the minutes of the New Jersey State Committee of the "Socialist", alias Social Democratic, alias Public Ownership party, published in the "Socialist Review", makes clear:

"Leters from White, Gilbert and W. F. Mills referred to Compaign Committee, with instructions to not employ Gilbert because of his affiliation with pronounced interest in the new industrial movement."

From all of which it appears that the real question is not "How can industrial unionism be best brought about?" but how can it be quickest killed by the "Socialist", alias Social Democratic, alias Public Ownership party.

It is a Socialist axiom that in order to find the cause of aspirations one must look to the material interests underlying them. Just now, Charles M. Schwab is illustrating this great truth. Having secured big contracts from Russia he is quoted as saying that "a victory by Togo would grieve Americans." Cause and effect in plain view once more!

"A lusty young rival to the Bell telephone," in the shape of the Great Eastern Telephone Company, a $30,000,000 corporation, was born at South Dakota last Monday. Such "a lusty young rival" would formerly have required many years to develop; but in the days of great combinations of capital, a giant's strength must be acquired at the very outset, or else failure is foregone.

In Boston two English brewing corporations were fined $700 and $200 respectively, for adulterating beer with salicylic acid. The fact that the corporations are foreign ones looks suspicious; but even then, since the use of adulterants means a gain of thousands, it is not likely that a few hundreds in fines will stop adulteration. Capital will break the law as long as it finds it profitable to do so.

The President, speaking at Pueblo, praised Colorado's scenery. Were Colorado's official record as grand as her natural beauties, she would be a great State in every respect. But her capitalist class, with its Peabodys and Bull Pens, have detracted from the complete beauty that would otherwise be hers; and that can only be restored when the Co-operative Commonwealth is ushered into "the Switzerland of America" by the Working Class.

Self-Convicted Gompers,

The April 28 issue of the "San Francisco Labor Clarion", an American Federation of Labor organ, just to hand, contains the following:

"WAS SUBWAY STRIKE ARRANGED?

"The charge has been made to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, says the 'Labor Leader' of Baltimore, that the subway and elevated strike in New York City was a pre-arranged affair, in which the leaders of the unions involved and the officials of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company connived, in order that labor organizations on the Interborough's system might be whipped and put out of business.

"Mr. Gompers said his informant had pointed out that the Interborough Company had gained not only the benefits of the terrible blow given to the organization of its employes, but had also made an enormous financial gain. By the order dating seniority in service of employes from March 6, 1905, hundreds of veteran motormen and guards are either driven from the service or forced to start anew at reduced wages and work back to the scale they were receiving when the leaders called the strike. From 25 to 50 cents per day for each employe will be gained by the Interborough Company during a period of more than a year, and this means a total of nearly $1,000,000.

"From other sources, the 'Labor Leader' goes on, it is learned that the burden of the charges is that the leaders of the two unions comprising the Interborough's employes were acting in the interests of the company when they prevailed on the men to strike. The actual strike order was issued Tuesday morning at a time when the Interborough had arranged through James Farley such an effective strike-breaking force that the movement was doomed to certain failure, and of this the union leaders are said to have been aware.

"Mr. Gompers said, the 'Labor Leader' concludes, that a detailed statement of the accusations reached him in the morning mail. It was signed by a man with whom Mr. Gompers said he was unacquainted. When asked if the charges would be investigated by the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Gompers said:

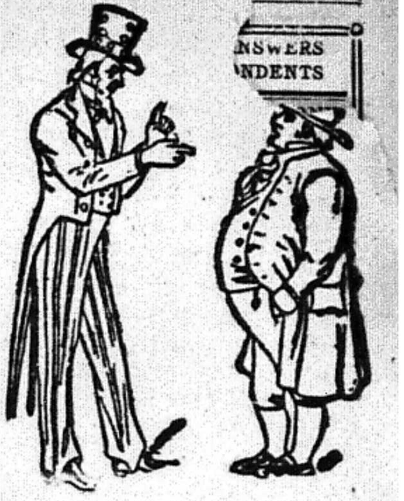
"'Such a crime against labor and civilization, if proved, would certainly be a matter of which the Federation would take note.'"

On the face of it this story appears as an explanation and defense of Gompers's traitorous conduct during the subway strike. But let us grant, for the sake of argument, that it is true, what explanation or defense can Gompers offer for his conduct subsequent to that strike, when he (Gompers) appeared in public with August Belmont, the president of the Interborough Company—the head and front of the officials who betrayed labor for the purpose of smashing its unions and lowering its wages and conditions—and aided him to perpetuate that colossal humbug, the National Civic Federation, organized for the alleged purpose of "promoting conciliation and arbitration in labor disputes", but really to keep labor in capitalist bondage?

We repeat, what explanation or defense can Gompers give for his subsequent perfidy in approving of and assisting in Belmont's work, knowing, as he did, the facts alleged by the "Labor Leader" of Baltimore, knowing, as he did, of this "crime against labor and civilization"? Gompers can offer no explanation or defense. The fact is that his whole proceedings subsequent to the subway strike are consistent with his course during it. The former helps to make clear the latter, namely, that Sam Gompers is an assistant, a "labor lieutenant" of the capitalist betrayers of labor. On this charge, Gompers stands self-convicted.

Many may be inclined to look upon the subway strike as ancient history, and of no further importance on that account. But make no mistake, it marks a turning point in the American Labor Movement. It has opened the eyes of the Working Class to the perfidy of the "labor lieutenants" of the Capitalist Class, that is, the Gomperses, Mitchells, Stones, Mahons, et al.; and necessitates counter action on their part. The appearance of the above story on the other side of the continent at this late date makes this clear. Though intended to save Gompers, this story's only merit consists in fastening the chain of guilt upon him more strongly than ever before. Viewed in the light of events that transpired subsequently to the subway strike, it is cumulative evidence of Gomper's pro-capitalist role.

According to report, the Stove Founders' convention, now in convention at Chicago, will almost double the present ratio of apprentices to journeymen. It will be interesting to know what the iron molders will decide to do as a counter move.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—I heard a ridiculous man talking last evening.

UNCLE SAM—What makes you think he was ridiculous?

B. J.—He was espousing the rights of the working class.

U. S.—Is that ridiculous?

B. J.—Why certainly. It is ridiculous in vew of the fact that the poverty of the working people and their so-called misery—

U. S.—So-called misery?

B. J.—Anyway, in view of the fact that their poverty and their misery are due in a large measure to their extravagance, their immorality and their aversion to work. A man, by economy, push and hard work can place him[illegible] in a position of comfort.

U. S.—That's all very beautiful. N[illegible] what is it you want?

B. J.—I want you to agree tha[illegible] espouse the rights of the working c[illegible] is ridiculous.

U. S.—I want you first to agree wi[illegible] me that you are a Heathen Chinee.

B. J.—But I am not.

U. S.—Certainly you are. In view of the fact that your eyes slant downward, that you carry a pigtail and that you wear your shirt outside of your trousers, what else can you be but a Heathen Chinee?

B. J.—But my eyes don't slant downward; I don't carry a pigtail; and as to my shirt, I don't wear it outside of my trousers. You are talking nonsense; you are off your base.

U. S.—But you will agree that if my premises were right my conclusion that you are a Heathen Chinee would be right too, wouldn't you?

B. J.—Yes, it would; but they aren't.

U. S.—And so I would agree with you that, if your premises about the characteristics of the workingmen, and about the capacity of "push, hard work and economy" to place a man in comfort, were correct, I would agree with you that it is ridiculous to espouse the workingman's cause. But these premises are as much "off" as the premises from which the conclusion followed that you were a Heathen Chinee.

B. J.—Well, let's look into my premises.

U. S.—Now you talk. When you started you incurred the very ugly error o[illegible] starting with a deliberate proposit[illegible] for your premises, and then trying [illegible] debate the conclusion. The real [illegible] to settle is that which you took [illegible] "fact." I deny your premises or [illegible] in toto. Now prove them.

B. J.—Which fact do you deny.

U. S.—Every one of them. It [illegible] true that the misery and the p[illegible] of the working class is due in any [illegible]ure to their extravagance, immo[illegible] or aversion to work. Each of the [illegible] legations is false. Neither is it [illegible] that economy, push and hard work [illegible] enough to put a man in comfort. N[illegible] trot out your proofs. Begin with the "extravagance" of the workingman.

B. J.—Hem; well—hem—

U. S.—Stuck? Well, proceed on his "immorality."

B. J.—Well; hem—well—

U. S.—Stuck again? Now take up his aversion to work.

B. J.—Hem; hem, Well—

U. S.—Stuck a third time. Now see here. Even the lying census reports don't allow the average workingman over $1 a day from year end to year end. What is there to economize on? If a man has to hire himself to a capitalist he can't get more pay than his market value, and that is determined by the supply of labor and the demand. If he gets a job, the price is barely enough to get along with. In order to get along without hiring himself he must have capital enough to employ others. Where is he going to get that capital from? The poverty of the workingman [illegible] the result not of aversion to work [illegible] the like, but of the private owner[illegible] of the machinery to work with; [illegible] owning that, must sell himself i[illegible] slavery, and wage slavery allo[illegible] margin to rise from. If economy [illegible] wealth producer then the workers [illegible] be millionaires and the millio[illegible] would be paupers. Just invest in [illegible] Labor News Company and So[illegible] books; the reading of them will [illegible] upon your head the effect of a dus[illegible] a neglected house.

CORRESPONDENCE

[CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDE THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.]

AS TO THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

I.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The idea prevails in the minds of some members of our Party that the most important work to be done at the June convention in Chicago is, granted that a new economic organization is born, to secure from said organization an indorsement for the Socialist Labor Party, to which I am most emphatically opposed, it being the very move that would bring joy and warmth to the cockles of the fakirs' hearts, for it would have the tendency to keep out of the new organization many to whom an industrial union seems more correct than the present craft organizations, and whom, being ignorant of their class interests, a resolution carrying with it the indorsement of the S. L. P. would impress as being a curtailment of their liberty to vote for any old thing that they deem right.

To me it seems to be of far greater importance to secure the free and unrestricted privilege to discuss economic questions. Then we can educate the members, and as they become class conscious, recognizing the necessity of overthrowing the present system of private ownership of the means of production, etc., they will (excepting the few who may become traitors by accepting jobs from capitalist parties), cast their ballots for that party which fearlessly and uncompromisingly upholds the interests of the working class and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist class, the Socialist Labor Party, regardless of any indorsement.

Comrades, the future belongs to us.

Fraternally,

E. F. Wegener.

Brooklyn, May 5, 1905.

II.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—I have read with great interest the address to the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance by Comrade De Leon in the Weekly People of April 29; also the reply of Comrade W. W. Cox to De Leon's "confession of faith", in the Weekly following. Comrade Cox reminds me of the French reformer Proudhon with his "patent" about the "stability of wages", who was in turn so masterly and sarcastically handled by Karl Marx in his reply to "Philosophy of Misery" versus "Misery of Philosophy." Comrade Cox lays great stress upon the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance constitution, even insinuating treason in a fetish manner and misquoting De Leon in his excitement of clinching a very important point.

Does Comrade Cox consider for a moment that things have wonderfully changed since its origin, or the birth of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance? Didn't he discover for a moment that the Capitalist Class, with the aid of their labor lieutenants, have changed front, and have become the spiritual advisers of ganized labor to the detriment of the orking Class? Did we dream at the me when the Socialist Trade & Labor lliance was organized that the Civic ederation would follow upon its heels? as Comrade Cox been blind to the Inrborough strike in Manhattan, with s result? Or the treacherous and cowrdly display of the officers of the Brewry Workers of late? Nor must he have observed the hands of the labor fakirated outfit with their "fatherly advisers," the Civic Federation.

The Socialist philosophy is not backed by a given mold but changes its methods according to the dictates of the evolutionary matters at hand. Or what would we say of a general who, having marked out his line of battle but seeing that he had been hoodwinked by the enemy who threatens him with a clever flank movement, says to his followers: "Comrades, we have marked out our line of battle, but seeing that our enemy has made a clever move to counteract us, knowing you are good faithful soldiers, and furthermore knowing that the enemy has to come our way of battle, even at the risk of our ranks being decimated, the time of victory is surely coming for our army, because we know we have the right line of battle before us"? Karl Liebknecht was once accused in a convention of the German Social Democrats of leaving his former line of tactical warfare. He replied: "Yes, and if our enemy changes his tactics a thousand times a day, I will change a thou- d times a day, too."

'omrade Cox seems to sniff compro- ;e. Compromise of what? On prin- ie, or with our former adversary? ely, he cannot find a flaw of a com- 'omise on principle in the "confession faith." And as far as men are con- rned in the coming convention at Chi- go, let me say, hold the tactical prin- 'ple tight in the convention, and the ght-rope dancers who will be there will drop out very quick under one pretext or another.

Let all such unite who have the same "confession of faith", who are, above all, Marxist in reasoning upon matters before us, and meet in the Chicago convention, but let all orthodox men stay at home for a change. Science is orthodox because it is dictated by the natural law of matters, but a scientist is a philosopher who studies this natural law.

Fraternally,

G. Reinner.

Jacksonville, Ill., May 6.

CHARITY AND THE WORKER.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Being out of work (or in want of a master), and finding it every day more difficult to get along, to keep from starving, and having tightened my belt so much to keep my diaphragm up that my sides were sore, I decided to ask or apply to the so-called charitable institutions for work. The first place I applied to was St. Joseph's Union. I had to fill out a large form, something after the fashion of the big railroad companies' blanks, and to answer all sorts of questions, among them my religious beliefs and the lowest wages I could work for, and could I not get a reference from my pastor? Here they got me for fair. I didn't know the parish or the church or the pastor where I lived! I guess that was my finish. The clerk in charge told me he would write to me in a few days. A month has gone by since, and no letter has come to my unfortunate self.

The next place I wended my way to was the Catholic Employment Agency at Fifty-sixth street and Sixth avenue. Here I was offered a job driving a wagon at $10 a week (the union scale is $13); but horrors! that was not the end: I was told a fee of $4 was necessary. I asked was not this a religious institution? The reply: "Yes; but we need money to run it."

Now, this is the place that Bishop Farley and other Catholic dignitaries poured their prayers and blessings upon, and told the public what a blessing it would be to the unemployed. Yet they charge 100 per cent. more than any of the other skin-game employment agencies that they were to protect the public from!

I had enough of Catholic institutions; I determined to try the Protestant ones. Alas! I was doomed to failure.

I met a gentleman who has connection with churches and charitable institutions. I told him my story. He gave me a ticket for the wood-yard—a place where men and women go to keep from starving—at Thirty-eighth street and Ninth avenue. Here I had to tell them how old I was, where living, who sent me there, etc. Having answered those questions, I was given a red ticket and a large shed was pointed out to me. In this shed was a lot of men chopping and sawing wood, with a foreman or overseer looking on from an easy seat. He was to put me to cutting wood at the rate of 50 cents for 3 hours. I asked him why they gave such large remuneration. "Why, we will be millionaires soon," I said. He did not answer, but told me to work. I told him I did not want to be rich; the burdens and cares and responsibilities would cause me to break down and bring premature old age upon myself. I left. As I did two or three of the "soul saviors" called after me. I did not look back. This beats any corporation to the wall as far as profit making is concerned. A man may chop from $3 to $5 worth of wood in three hours and then get 50 cents. Comment is needless.

But that was not all. A postal card came to my friend, stating I refused to work. Had I worked those religious hypocrites would have informed him that I was paid fifty cents.

At last, being wearied and disgusted, I rested my aching limbs on the stoop of a Methodist Episcopal church. I had not rested long when I was ordered to move on by one of the job-holders of the church. I moved on, replying that "the son of man had no where to lay his head."

The stevedore blows his whistle; he thinks I am a good subject for exploitation. I am picked out from a crowd of wage slaves, perhaps not so unfortunate as myself. I found a master in a dock opposite the church from which I was told to move away. My troubles ended for a time.

P. L. Quinlan.

New York, May 9.

BOSTON COMMON MEETINGS OPENED.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—The first open air meeting on Boston Common by Section Boston was held last Sunday. A better day could not be imagined, and the Working Class were out in great numbers enjoying the first fine Sunday of the season. Comrade J. C. Durach, who, by the way, made his first appearance as a speaker for the Socialist Labor Party, acted as chairman, and in a logical way told of the principles of the only workingman's party in existence. He then introduced Comrade James Corcoran as the first speaker.

Corcoran told how the capitalist, aided and abetted by the ignorance in economics of the Working Class, is constantly robbing the latter, and said that only when the workers became thoroughly revolutionary and class-conscious can they expect to be free.

M. D. Fitzgerald was the next speaker. He dwelt at length on how the Republican and Democratic politicians are all the time fooling the Working Class: one party goes in, another goes out, and the worker is skinned just the same.

The chairman next introduced as speaker Comrade W. H. Carroll, the terror of the labor fakirs. These worthies certainly received all that was coming to them. Carroll was frequently interrupted by applause. He asked for questions at the close of his talk, and a young Kang asked why the Socialist Labor Party organized unions in New York in opposition to the unions already in existence. This was Carroll's chance to tell the crowd that by this time numbered over 500 persons, about the treachery of the Civic Federationized American Federation of Labor labor fakirs of the Gompers, Mitchell, Stone, et al. type. He showed how the men of the Interborough Company in New York, when they asserted themselves, were ordered back by these misleaders, and when the men refused to go back, expelled them, and that then the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance stepped in and organized the men into a genuine Labor Union. Carroll's words were appreciated and many a man went away with a new idea tucked away under his hat.

Section Boston expects to hustle this summer on the Common. The members should encourage the active workers and speakers with their presence and do what they can to boom the press and literature of the Party. The mass meeting at Faneuil Hall under the combined auspices of Section Boston and the local Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance ought to be an eye-opener to the workers. All up and at them, workingmen! The enemy is on the defensive!

S. V. Krouthen.

Boston, May 9.

CAMPAIGN IS ON IN MANHATTAN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Third Assembly District of the Socialist Labor Party held a meeting at the corner of Thompson and Bleecker streets, Manhattan, at eight p. m. sharp on May 10th, 1905. The comrades were on hand promptly, and Chairman P. Quinlan took the stand.

After a few brief remarks by the Chairman, Comrade Chase was introduced.

Comrade Chase gave a short, sharp and decisive address. The audience seemed to feel that the comrade was expounding to them a talk that will emancipate them.

The Chairman then introduced Comrade T, Walsh of Brooklyn. Comrade Walsh explained the conditions existing all over the country, and pointed out the remedy, and was well received.

Comrade Downes was next introduced, and proved that there were classes in society beyond a reasonable doubt.

Comrade Downes then asked for questions, and one of the audience requested to know the difference between the Social Democratic Party and the Socialist Labor Party. After being answered by Comrade Downes, he did not seem to be satisfied with the comrade's answer, whereupon Comrade Downes left the decision to the audience as to whether or not the question had been properly answered. The result was that the audience unanimously decided that the difference had been clearly defined.

The police interfered with the distribution of the leaflets, whereupon the Chairman requested the audience to step forward to the stand and take same from the platform, which was done.

The result of the meeting was, eleven pamphlets sold, and ten names added to the petition.

Organizer,

1st, 3rd and 5th Assembly Districts.

MAY DAY IN INDEPENDENCE, MINN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—May Day was celebrated here by a picnic at Comrade Schelin's place. A beautiful May Pole was erected from which waved the national flag as well as the red international of the working class.

A reading contest was held and the subject: "What Means This Strike?" was ably read by the following contestants: Charles Schelin, Charles Borg, Elmer Trolander, Mrs. J. J. Brindas, Miss Carr and Miss Maude McGann. The latter was voted the prize and was elected May Fairy.

The undersigned made a short address explaining the struggle between the classes and why Socialists celebrate the First of May.

Literature was distributed and a fine sociable time was enjoyed by all present.

It was decided at this celebration to hold another festival on the Fourth of July when we hope to see some of the outside comrades visit us.

With fraternal greetings to all militant workers, I am, yours to the bitter end,

C. S. Ericksson.

Independence, Minn., May 7.

MAY DAY IN PATERSON.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—May Day was celebrated in this city last Sunday on the Haledon Mountain, not only by our Section, but also by the Social Democratic party side by side; and it was as it should be, courteously. Both organizations had practically the same features. When our speaker, Comrade Vaughan, addressed the audience, they maintained order; likewise when their speaker had the box we maintained order.

The Socialist Labor Party addresses were appropriate. Comrade Vaughan demonstrated the significance of May Day in comparison to the September Labor Day. He then dwelt upon the Class Struggle and the necessity for the solidarity of the world proletariat. He also called attention to the June 27 convention at Chicago. The comrades distributed 200 manifestoes in English and German; twenty-three pamphlets were reported sold, and twenty-five Weekly People disposed of. The festivities closed about noon.

Despite the outward resemblances, the same internal contrasts between the Socialist Labor Party and the Social Democratic party obtained as ever. The latter's speaker contrasted the lives of the rich and the poor a la Journal, and while he was speaking, a load of liquid refreshment was unloaded to the disturbance of their own orator. Fun seems to be their chief aim, they apparently were arranging for a full day and night of it.

News has come to the writer that the other party is tearing up the Chicago Manifestoes.

R. Berdan.

Paterson, N. J., May 9.

MILLS PLAYS OSTRICH IN EFFORT TO DODGE.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—On Sunday, April 30, Walter Thomas Mills spoke in Odd Fellow's Hall in Hoboken, under the auspices of the "Socialist" party. At the end of his speech, he called for questions on Socialism, declaring not to profess to know everything that he might be asked, but promising to answer every question, even if it was with a "I don't know."

I arose and asked the following question in the following manner:

"Mr. Mills, I am a member of the Socialist Labor Party; If you will answer the question that I am going to put and give me permission to answer you and then prove me wrong in my contentions, I will resign and become a member of your party. My question is: 'What is the true difference in the attitude of the two parties towards trades unions?'"

Mills answered that he was not long enough in the Socialist Movement to know of the conflicts that have taken place in the past and therefore was unable to answer that question.

I protested against this answer, inasmuch as it was a clear evasion. Mills waved me to sit down, declaring that the question had been answered.

Mills then introduced a book written by himself, entitled "The Struggle for Existence", in which book every question of "sociology, political economy, municipal and State ownership, and every other point that a Socialist or a person eager to study Socialism might want to inform himself upon was fully answered", at the price of $2.50.

The introduction of this book and the statement of its merits was a clear contradiction as to Mills's professed knowledge of Socialism in answering questions, when he declared that there were points of which he would have to say "I don't know."

Julius Eck.

Hoboken, N. J., May 8.

WHO "STOLE" THE VOTES THIS TRIP?

To the Daily and Weekly People.—In spite of the fact that the Socialist Labor Party was not in the field to "steal" away its votes, the "Socialist" party was unable to prevent their vote from tumbling down the line as it does elsewhere. The straight vote for the "Socialist" party in Spokane, Wash., this spring is 380 against 684 for Debs last year. The straight vote two years ago was 213.

Harris A. Brandborg.

Spokane, Wash., May 5.

VOLCANIC RUMBLINGS

[The following is from the West Hoboken, N. J., "Socialist Review," organ of the so-called Socialist, alias Social Democratic, alias Public Ownership Party, for May. It embodies the views of those New Jersey members of the above party, that were "turned down" by their State Executive Committee, when it, according to the "Review", instructed its Campaign Committee not to employ National Organizer Gilbert, "because of his affiliation with pronounced interest in the new industrial movement.".]

AS TO INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM.

To the Editor of The Socialist Review:

A manifesto, setting forth the true aims and objects and the causes for the existence of the economic movement of the working class, together with a call for a conference of representatives of all class conscious trade unionists, has been issued throughout the land.

No doubt to many of those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, this call and manifesto has come as a glad tiding, as a ray of hope out of the chaos of present trade union conditions. To a man who is daily in contact with the trade union movement, that is with those who form the real strength of the organization, the rank and file, that man must have discovered long since, that a general feeling of discontent prevails among the membership of the various trade unions.

As we are not one of that kind of trade unionists who do not wish to have it generally known how the movement is advancing except when they can make a favorable report, but who believes in fair and open treatment and discussion of all questions arising within the labor organizations, we do not hesitate to say, that the present trade union movement as exemplified in the American Federation of Labor has not only reached the highest rung in the ladder of its influence and general standing, but it is actually bent on a retrogressive movement.

The causes for this downward movement are not very hard to find. The trade unions of to-day have utterly failed to apply themselves to changed industrial conditions. The old time crafts or trades of former days have at this time almost entirely disappeared in the modern organization of industries, that is, their distinct craft individuality has been wiped out almost completely. Crafts and trades formerly individually recognized, are to-day working side by side in the same shop, in the same industry, for the same master, and the same slavish conditions prevail for all the workers. Despite this they uphold the same old system of trade division and trade organization as of former years, principally through the influence of their conservative leaders, which results greatly to the detriment of the effectiveness of their respective organizations.

Those who have acquainted themselves with the development of the struggles of those trade unions against the aggressions of the employing class—note the late disastrous strike of the slaughter house employes and still more recently the strike of the elevated and subway railroad employes of New York—to those it must have been brought home with elementary force, that "something is rotten in the state of Denmark." When the members of an organization allow their elective officers to overrule the decision of a general vote and give them the power to suspend their local arbitrarily, and thereby work right into the hands of the enemy, then they certainly do not deserve any better treatment, and neither will they get any better, not until they wake up and take away such arbitrary powers from their executive officers, and thereby show them that they are to be the servants and not the masters and dictators of the rank and file.

The great trouble with organized labor in our country is that it has very little class feeling, hardly any conception of the causes and the objects of the labor movement, very little class-consciousness and class solidarity. The chosen leaders of the trade union organizations make but very little effort to enlighten their membership on these matters. In most instances they bend all their energy towards the frustrating of any movement on the part of the members to enlighten themselves.

I have before me the manifesto and call for the conference of June 27 for the purpose of organizing an Industrial Labor Organization. It is accompanied by a general plan of the proposed organization, drawn up in the shape of a wheel with seven spokes, representing the seven principal departments of industry, all centralized in an axle of a general administration with a president at the head. The salient point of the plan is the strong tendency towards a general centralization of the system. The present system, and the general tactics of the so-called labor leaders, would discourage any one from advocating any centralization of the powers of the different organizations.

The plan, as laid out by the promoter of the movement, seems to guarantee the individuality of each organization in a centralized administration, at the same time assuring the co-operation of all in any movement towards bettering the condition of any single part of the organized labor forces.

By far the best, and the most promising sign of the new movement, is the proclamation of its recognition of the class struggle, its repudiation of the idea of identity of interests between the working class and the capitalist class, its declaration that the emancipation of the workers from wage-slavery must be the goal of the labor movement both on the economic and the political fields. The manifesto and call for a conference are well worth the earnest consideration of all well-meaning and class-conscious workers in the trade union movement. At any rate it has our heartiest endorsement.

CHAS. KIEHN,

Sec'y Local 271, I. L. M. & T. A.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.]

R. A., CINCINNATI, O.—There can be no more two Unions peacefully together than two political parties. The space that either occupies is taken from the other.

J. L., LISBON, N. DAK.—First. Frank Sieverman of Rochester, received in his town the name of "Pull Down No. 19" through the following circumstance. Sieverman was running for Alderman on the Social Democratic ticket. In Rochester they have the voting machine, each candidate having a number beside his name. Sieverman's number on the Social Democratic column was 19. On the Sunday before election he spread a large number of handbills in his ward, calling upon the voters to attend a meeting where he would explain "what a Socialist Alderman could do." At that meeting, what he explained was how the voters could scratch their tickets by voting for HIM (not for the candidates of his party) but for HIM. He showed them that all they had to do was to "pull down No. 19", and then they could go ahead and pull down the cranks at any other party's other candidates—but first "pull down No. 19." That was "what a Socialist Alderman could do."

Second. It was at Lynn, Mass., that Sievermen was rotten-egged by the workingmen for acting in the capacity of a rounder of scabs for the shoe manufacturers.

Third. Sieverman talks through his hat when he says that the Socialist Labor Party can not get the signatures to get on the ballot in this State. The S. L. P. will get on the ballot with flying colors.

Fourth. Whether Sieverman's name was originally Silverman or not, we do not know.

Fifth. Sieverman ran away from the Socialist Labor Party because he knew he would be otherwise expelled. The S. L. P. does not harbor scab-herders and scabs.

G. R., JACKSONVILLE, ILL.—Let us put it in our own way:

In order to understand a principle, all perturbing influences must at first be left aside, and the principle must be considered in all its unperturbed purity. Allowance can afterwards be made for perturbing influences. That is the process that all sciences adopt; it is also Marx's process. Consequently, we need not, to answer your question, consider the perturbing causes that lower the "price" of labor-power below its "exchange-value." We shall assume that, in this instance, the "price" and the "exchange-value" of labor-power coincide. Accordingly, the capitalist in question buys his labor-power at its "exchange-value."

Now, then, the exchange value of a commodity is determined by the amount of labor crystallized in it and socially necessary for its reproduction. Here, again, we must assume that the amount paid for the commodity by the purchaser is the actual amount of the exchange-value of all the labor crystallized in it. Where does the capitalist's profit come in? This must be grasped before we can go further. The capitalist's profit flows from the "use-value" of the commodity labor-power. That use-value consists in yielding a larger amount of exchange-value than its own exchange-value in the labor market.

Now, as to the labor-power. It is a merchandise. As such its exchange value depends upon the same law that establishes the exchange-value of other commodities. The exchange-value of labor-power is the equivalent of the exchange-values of the means of subsistence—AND THAT IS THE EXCHANGE-VALUE OF THE LABOR-POWER OF A DAY'S WORK.

But what is "a day's work"? Again eliminating perturbing causes, the longer "the day's work", all the more use-value is the employer deriving from it, and when he buys it he is entitled to all the hours that he can get.

If the employer buys labor-power for $1, that means that he has the benefit of the use-value of labor-power as many hours as he can get out of it. If the exchange-value of the total commodities necessary for one day's subsistence is $1, and in three hours the labor-power, bought by the capitalist, has yielded a use-value of the exchange-value of $1, plus the cost of raw and other material it means that all the other hours that the employer can utlize his purchased labor-power will yield him a use-value, the exchange-value of which is pure "velvet" or profit.

With this explanation your concrete question can be broached.

If an employer buys labor-power for 10 hours, and in 3 hours the labor-power reproduces its own exchange-value, and in 3 hours more he reproduces the exchange-value of the raw material, wear and tear of plant, tools, and all that goes into the new article, and then has to work 4 hours longer, it would follow that the exchange-value of labor-power, expressed in hours, is 3.

That is so obvious from your own premises that we suspect you have something else in mind and failed to express it. If so, the preliminary argument may possibly enlighten you on what you do have in mind.

F. J. B., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—Do you not know what a Gamaliel is? You may wrangle with a man all you like, but you must never prove that he is mistaken. If you wrangle, and don't clinch his error, and make an ass of yourself generally, then you are a "good fellow"; but woe is you if you clinch his error and knock him out! then you are a "Gamaliel", others call it "Boss", others "Pasha", others "Tyrant", yet others "Pope"; more lately the term "Jesuit" has been cropping up.

T. C., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—There is nothing in Protestant theology (except in Unitarian Protestantism) that is not embodied in Catholicism. All that the Catholic Church has over and beyond that is not theology at all but a policy and system of terrestrial government.

M. M., CLEVELAND, O.—An instance of the Volkszeitung Corporation's stupidity and nativistic impudence in the matter of the English language? Here is one. Its paper had an article saying that the English language was dishonest, and tried to prove it by the word "umbrella." It argued, correctly enough, that the etymology of the word showed that "umbrella" means a "shade giver", and with its own peculiar German nativistic stupidity it concluded that it was absurd to ask for a "shade giver" when you mean a "rain protector", and consequently the English language was absurd and dishonest. The People at the time asked them whether the Latin language—proverbially the most accurate and precise—was also absurd and dishonest? The Latin word "tribe" originally meant "one-third", it being the division of the three clans that first occupied Rome. When later other clans were added, the idea of number was dropped, and the word "tribe", which originally meant "one-third", acquired the meaning of "clan." Was the Latin language absurd and dishonest when it spoke of "five tribes", "twenty tribes" of a place—in other words, of five and of twenty "thirds" of a whole? But The People also carried the war into Africa. It asked them whether the German language was "absurd and dishonest" when it spoke of a "Viertel" (quarter) of a town, and meant a ward which might not be one-hundredth part, let alone a quarter of the place?—Those people are conceited ignoramuses, and to think of such clowns dominating the American Movement!

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN—Other inquirers next week

TO PARTY MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS IN ALL COUNTRIES—Forward to this office copies of the preambles and constitutions of your Unions: as full a set as possible is wanted at this office.

B. H., PHILADELPHIA, PA.; F. O. F., BUTTE, MONT.; D. R., SACRAMENTO, CAL.; A. W. R., ST. LOUIS, MO.; R. O., NEW YORK; T. W., BOSTON, MASS.; C. C. C., PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.; T. A. B., CHICAGO, ILL.; A. A. G., KANSAS CITY, MO.; B. F., NEW HAVEN, CT.; A. B., PARIS, FRANCE; A. C. M'G., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—Matter received.

Watch the label on your paper. That will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third the year.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Reade street, New York.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Secretary, P. O. Box 330, London, Ont.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY, 2-6 New Reade street, New York City (The Party's literary agency.)

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

N. Y. S. E. C.

Meeting at headquarters, Daily People, building, 2-6 New Reade street, New York city, on Friday May 12,. Gillhaus in chair. Walsh absent. Minutes of previous meeting approved as published.

Communications: From Organizer Rudolph Katz, on meetings held in Portchester, Ossining and Nyack; work done in Peekskill, Congers and Rockland Lake, and his plans to visit Pearl River and Croton. At all the former places subscribers to the Party Press were secured, and connections that will prove beneficial to the Party established. The outlook in Rockland County is good. Report filed. From Organizing Committee, Section Rensselaer County, requesting endorsement of call for meeting in Albany on May 14. Granted. From Section Rensselaer County, transfer card of H. Herman. Filed.

Financial report for April was submitted as follows: Income, by due stamps, $82.40; agitation, donations, $12.00; donations (commissions on subs and literature, Katz), $3.00; mileage, $15.00. Total, $93.00. Expenditures, agitation (Katz) $44.25; printing, (Katz's tour), $4.50; printing (Correspondence Bureau), $1.25; postage (Correspondence Bureau), $1.62; postage and sundries, $1.55. Total, $53.17. Balance, $39.83. Grand total, $93.00. Deficit in March, $101.85; balance in April, $39.83. Net deficit, $62.02. Report filed.

Committee on Report of Correspondence Bureau (Moren and Lechner) stated that report showed absence of connections in eighteen counties, and other counties in which the connections are very slight.

The representative of the Correspondence Bureau reported the efforts being made to secure connections in unconnected counties through the sections in the neighboring counties, and the State Committees in the four adjacent States, who have been requested to assist in the counties along the State borders. Since last report letters have been sent out to eleven sections, four State committees, and fifteen individuals.

After discussing plans to perfect the work of the Correspondence Bureau, the meeting adjourned.

J. Ebert, Secretary.

NEW YORK STATE CORRESPONDENCE BUREAU.

The New York State Correspondence Bureau hereby invites the co-operation of all comrades and sympathizers in the State of New York in the work of establishing connections for the Party in unorganized localities in the State. It requests that the names of sympathizers or others who may be approached in connection with the Party's work be forwarded to this Bureau immediately, so that we may get into communication with them and thus pave the way for the upbuilding of our organization in New York State.

Immediate responses will aid materially in the work before us. Address:

New York State Correspondence Bureau,
S. L. P.
2-6 New Reade Street, New York City.

INFORMATION WANTED.

It is desired that all members or sympathizers of the Socialist Labor Party in Connecticut, who intend to move into, or visit any place in New York State, or possess ay information concerning Socialist sentiment in New York State, where the Socialist Labor Party has no organization, report such intention and information to the undersigned.

By order of the Connecticut State Executive Committee,

Fred Fellerman, Sec.
2 State street, Hartford, Conn.

SPECIAL FUND.

(As per circular letter of Sept. 1, 1901.)

Previously acknowledged	$9,969.09
A. Friend, Reading, Pa.	5.40
V. Barnardoni, Galveston, Texas	1.00
J. Fuchs, Galveston, Texas ..	1.00
H. Hassfurther, Cleveland, Ohio.	1.00
O. Howard, Kansas City, Mo.	1.00
O. Schwetzgebel, " " "	.50
T. Tanner, " " "	.50
J. McFall, " " "	.50
R. Chalmers, " " "	.50
H. Kruse, Los Angeles, Cal. .	1.00
Section Passaic County, N. J.	3.00
Total	$9,984.49

BUFFALO ON DECK!

Nominates County and City Ticket For Coming Election.

[Special Correspondence.]

Buffalo, N. Y., May 14.—The Socialist Labor Party has nominated the following county and city ticket for the coming election:

For Sheriff—James Coward.

For District Attorney—Boris Reinstein.

For Mayor—Thomas H. Jackson.

For Comptroller—Orcus A. Curtis.

For Corporation Counsel—L. A. Armstrong.

For Judge of Municipal Court—F. Repschlager, Jr.

For Assessors—Henry Waldmann; William F. Rohloff.

For Overseer of the Poor—John Fronchowiak.

For Justices of the Peace—Henry J. Bork; Daniel Scannel.

For Councilman's Commissioners—J. F. Yates, W. Jakubowski, W. D. Stewart and Fred R. Till.

We opened fire on the enemy's camp Friday night, April 28, at the corner of Main and Mohawk streets, and have kept it up ever since. We hold meetings here every Sunday and Tuesday nights; also every second and fourth Friday and Saturday.

Sympathizers should not fail to attend these meetings. We have a big campaign before us, but we mean to win out. Fall to, and give us a lift! In working class unity is there working class strength.

S. L. P. LECTURES

At Buffalo—Monday, May 22, at Socialist Labor Party headquarters, Room 510, 19 West Mohawk street. Subject: "The Capitalist", by T. H. Jackson. Admission free.

HOMESTRETCH FUND.

Previously acknowledged	$4,720.07
W. O. Connell, Duluth, Minn. .	2.25
S. Weinberger, Schenectady, N. Y.	.60
J. C. Ross, Boston, Mass.	1.00
J. Sullivan, " "	2.00
J. Mc Phee, " "	1.00
Total	$4,726.92

IMPORTANT, SECTION MILWAUKEE

Section Milwaukee will hold an important meeting Saturday evening, May 20, at Socialist Labor Party headquarters, room 7, Lipp's building, corner Third and Prairie streets. The election of a delegate to the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance convention and other important matters must be attended to.

Frank R. Wilke, Organizer.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTE, MONT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The "Socialist" party of Butte is improving a little right along. Two weeks ago the local passed a resolution, instructing the two "Socialist" aldermen in the city council to refuse henceforth to vote for capitalist nominees or to participate in appointments of the capitalist mayor. One of the aldermen, Ambrose, consented to abide by the will of the local, but the other fellow, Wainscot, said he intended henceforth to act on his own judgment. So when the new council was organized May 1, Ambrose obeyed the instructions of the club as he understood them, but Wainscot voted for all the appointments of the capitalist mayor. The S. P. local met last night, preferred charges against Wainscot, and without a dissenting vote expelled him from the party and sent in his signed resignation to the city council. The resignation was accepted, Wainscot was renominated by a member of the "anti-trust" party, and with Ambrose alone dissenting, was re-elected to a position in the council. In view of the fact that last year this same performance of voting for capitalist nominees was gone through by both "Socialist" aldermen, without notice being taken of it by the local, the action last night indicates some progress toward clearness. The little criticism the S. P. has been receiving right along from the S. L. P. has helped matters some.

Fraternally,
B. H. Williams.
Butte, Mont., May 4, 1905.

(From the Sydney, Australia, "People.")

How shall we get Socialism? When a majority of the working class are convinced class-conscious intelligent Socialists, not before.

But, say the timid and craven-hearted, that it will take a long time. Yes it will so long as people think so. Though this must not be forgotten, a generation completely transforms systems and methods to-day. Socialism is just as far off as the people (the workers) make it. The S. L. P. is drilling the army to bring it about. It is small now, but its on the march.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

AGITATIONAL

Four Organizers In the Field—Out-Door Campaign On.

Beginning June 1, the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance and the Socialist Labor Party will have four organizers in the field, all proclaiming the doctrines of Industrial Unionism and uncompromising class-conscious working class political action, namely: Bohn in California, Katz in New York, Dillon in Connecticut and Gilhaus in Ohio. Comparisons are odious; but a comparison of the number of organizers out this year on June 1 with the number out last year on the same date will prove a source of gratification and exultation to all S. T. & L. A. and S. L. P. men. The Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance and the Socialist Labor Party, together with their press (as shown in this week's "Labor News" and "Business Department Notes"), are very much alive. Before the summer is over they will be found to be very much more alive, as, at the present rate of growth in agitation, more organizers and more literature will then be in demand, and in the field.

CONNECTICUT, ATTENTION!

To the Members and Sympathizers of the Socialist Labor Party in the State of Connecticut.

The triple alliance formed by the States of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, has succeeded in engaging Comrade Evan J. Dillon, of Indiana, as organizer-solicitor for the Socialist Labor Party. He will report for duty at Hartford on May 17, and will operate according to the following dates:

After arrival to May 25 in New Britain; May 26 to 29, South Manchester; May 30, Hartford (State convention); May 31 to June 4, Meriden; June 5 to 10, Middletown; June 11 to 17, New London.

Further dates will be published later. The main object to be realized is to strengthen organizations already in existence and to form new ones where possible. But special stress will be laid upon soliciting for the press and literature of the Socialist Labor Party. All members and sympathizers should therefore make it their special business to render all possible aid to the organizer-solicitor in his arduous task.

By order of the Connecticut S. E. C.
Fred Fellermann, Secretary.
Hartford, Conn., May 15, 1905.

THE FANEUIL HALL MEETING.

Boston, May 7.—The committee on Faneuil Hall meeting have secured the Hall for Tuesday evening, June 6, for the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance and Industrial Unionism meeting. Five thousand cards have been ordered for advertising, and will be ready for distribution at the meetings of Section Boston. Let every comrade be present to take his allotment and do his share of the work.

The committee hopes to make this meeting the best in the history of Section Boston and, if the comrades will co-operate, it can be accomplished.

CHICAGO OPEN AIR MEETINGS.

Open air meetings will be held in Chicago on the following dates and at the following places:

SATURDAY, MAY 20.

Ninety-second and Commercial streets—Speakers: F. Barndt and A. Lingenfelter.

Sixty-third and Halstead streets—Speakers: H. A. Nielsen and C. Starkenberg.

SUNDAY, MAY 21.

At 10 o'clock A. M.:

Oak and Segwick—Speakers: Wilbur Wolfe, H. A. Nielsen and C. Starkenberg.

At 4 o'clock P. M.:

Speakers: F. Barndt, H. A. Nielsen and C. Starkenberg.

At 8 o'clock P. M.:

Walton and Place—Speakers: Duncan B. McEachern and J. Slater.

TUESDAY, MAY 23.

Forty-seventh and State streets—Speakers: Wilbur Wolfe, H. A. Nielson and A. Lingenfelter.

Thirty-ninth street and Cottage Grove avenue—Speakers: F. Barndt and C. Starkenberg.

THURSDAY, MAY 25.

Halsted and Root streets—Speakers: Wilbur Wolfe, F. Barndt and A. Lingenfelter.

Thirty-fifth and State streets—Speakers: H. A. Nielsen and C. Starkenberg.

SATURDAY, MAY 27.

Ninety-second and Commercial streets—Speakers: T. L. Povis, H. A. Nielsen and C. Starkenberg.

Milwaukee and Pauline streets—Speakers: Charles W. Winfield, A. Lingenfelter, A. Fiedler and F. Barndt.

Members and sympathizers should be present and help in the distribution of literature and in getting subs for the Party press.

ST. LOUIS OPEN AIR MEETINGS.

Section St. Louis, Socialist Labor Party, holds open air meetings every Saturday, 8 o'clock p. m., at the northwest corner of Thirteenth street and Franklin avenue, weather permitting. All readers of The People are requested to attend and bring friends.

GREATER BOSTON, TAKE NOTE!

Important meeting of Boston Local Alliance 77, Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, at headquarters, on Thursday, May 25.

All members are requested to attend without fail.

C. H. Burnham, Rec. Sec.

BOHN'S ITINERARY.

Toulmne, 16th-18th; Stockton, 19th-23d; Sacramento, 24th-30th; Reno, Nev., May 31st to June 2; San Francisco and surroundings, thirty days; San Jose and surroundings, 10 days; Eureka, 10 days. Definite dates for last three later.

INTERBOROUGH BLUFF.

Clark and Doran of U. R. W. Again Arrested.

James Clark and Robert Doran, the two members of the United Railway Workers, Local Alliance No. 9, Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, who were arrested in so high-handed a manner on Wednesday morning after having given leaflets to the employes of the Lenox avenue car shops, were again taken into custody Thursday morning by two lackeys of the Interborough Company.

While on the way down through Harlem on the Third avenue "L", Clark and Doran had given some of the trainmen a copy of the address "To Railway Workers." One of the lackeys stepped up to a guard and demanded the leaflet of him and when he saw what it was joined his companion. Just then the train stopped at the 106th street station, and Clark and Doran having reached their destination got off. The two lackeys followed and immediately grabbed the men and took them to the 104th street police station, where they again had to parry some browbeating from a bullying sergeant. Later, the prisoners were brought before Magistrate McAvoy in the Harlem court, who promptly discharged them and told the lackeys the men had committed no offence under the law, and refused to remand them until the company's lawyer could appear to try to trump up some charge against them.

The chagrined lackeys, whose names are Charles F. Wilhelm and John Schwenk, threatened the railway men that they would fix them yet, but Clark and Doran simply laughed at their discomfiture.

JAPANESE WOMEN.

The Slaves and Private Property of Men—Professional Class Arising.

[From the Tokio "Chokugen," Sole Organ of Japanese Socialists.]

THE CONDITIONS OF WOMEN.

The present issue of our paper is specially devoted to the woman problem. So we introduce here to our foreign comrades the condition of women in this country.

Japanese women in a word are utterly subject to men. Girls are possessed by their fathers as if they were private property and are compulsorily married to men who are wilfully chosen by the fathers without almost any regard to the girls' own consent. After the marriage the wives are possessed by their husbands as the objects of pleasure, as the instruments of breeding children and as the convenient servants for the household nuisance. They are all victims of family system.

In lower classes the wives are literally slaves of men. Some are beaten and kicked by the drunkard husbands. Some are forsaken with their numerous children. Some are forced to drudge all the time as if bound with chains. And the girls who are fortunately or unfortunately pretty are all compelled to become prostitutes for which Japan is so famous throughout the world. There are also many hundreds of thousands of factory girls a great number of whom are sinking to early graves.

It is true that the woman education in this country made a great progress. But it is only from the necessity for the women to get living in competition with men. So there arose recently a great may professional women most of them unmarried. They are nurses, teachers, telephone girls, petty clerks &c. And they are the only women in this country who are beginning to awaken to consciousness of their economical situation.

Our Socialist female comrades are of course yet very small in number. But they are, we believe, steadily increasing among the women students and the professional women.

We hold a lecture assembly once a week in the Heiminsha for women. Though the audience is of course very small, the assembly may be in future the centre of our woman movements.

FOR OVER SIXTY YEARS.
An Old and Well-Tried Remedy!
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over SIXTY YEARS by MILLIONS of MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, WITH PERFECT SUCCESS. It SOOTHES the CHILD, SOFTENS the GUMS, ALLAYS all PAIN; CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHOEA. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP,
AND TAKE NO OTHER KIND.
Twenty-Five Cents a Bottle.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

Three hundred and sixty-eight subscriptions to the Weekly People were secured during the week ending Saturday, May 12.

Five or more subs were received as follows:

Charles Pierson, Chicago, Ill., 36; Frank Bohn, Los Angeles, Cal., 17; Frank Leitner, San Antonio, Tex., 10; J. R. Robinson, Houston, Tex., 9; Frank F. Young, Bellevue, Ky., 8; Christian Schmidt, New Haven, Conn., 8; G. A. Jenning, E. St. Louis, Ill., 8; Thirty-fourth A. D., New York City, 6; Ben. Hilbert, Jr., Hamilton, Ohio, 5; John Burkhardt, Indianapolis, Ind., 10; L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal., 5.

Prepaid sub cards amounting to five dollars and fifty cents were sold.

Butte, Montana, bought 1,000 copies of the Weekly People of the thirteenth; and Salt Lake City ordered 600 of the thirteenth and 600 of the twentieth, inst.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

The record of last week's business is really interesting; the largest volume for some time.

During the week we sent out over 2000 copies of "The Burning Question of Trades Unionism" in the new edition. These orders had been accumulating only since April 15. The larger ones were 400 copies to San Francisco; 250 to Salt Lake City, and 300 to the Western Federation of Miners' local of Phoenix, B. C.

The Silver City Miners' Union of Silver City, Idaho, also ordered 50 "The Burning Question" and 50 other pamphlets. San Antonio, Texas, took 50 "Strikes" and 50 "Burning Question" and 250 leaflets, "The Trades Union Question."

Orders were filled for Frank Bohn for 100 "Burning Question" and 100 "What Means This Strike?", also 85 pamphlets of other titles.

The Sixteenth and Eighteenth Assembly Districts of Brooklyn bought 1000 of the leaflet "The Trades Union Question", 25 "Strikes" and 25 "Burning Question." Hartford, Conn., bought 4 "Woman Under Socialism", 2 "Ideal City", 2 "Silver Cross" and 1 "Pilgrim's Shell"; also 75 copies of the "Burning Question" and 25 "Behind the Scenes" and 41 other pamphlets.

Glasgow, Scotland, ordered assorted literature to the amount of $37 worth.

All Sections should supply themselves with copies of the "Course of Reading on Socialism, Recommended by the New York Labor News Company." It is a neatly bound booklet and costs 2 cents per copy to Sections.

The following was received from the Cleveland Labor News Agency:

"Upon your suggestion, we are sending you the accompanying report of this department:

"There was not much doing in the line of German literature until very lately, when things took a turn for the better. Just as we were preparing the report, the order from Brewery Workers' Union No. 9, Milwaukee, came in. While the order was solicited, it was much larger than it was expected it would be.

"You are aware, of course, that the report does not cover all of the work done by this department. The largest income so far was from the sale of our English books and the increased circulation of "Der Wahre Jacob" locally. We have sold quite a number of copies of "Woman" and the Sue books.

"The subscriptions of "Der Wahre Jacob" in Cleveland, of which there were only four when we took hold of matters, have now increased to 81. A good deal more could be done along this line by the German comrades of New York and Brooklyn, where there are no subs to mention, and no effort at all.

"Last week we sent out a circular letter to the Sections; another circular will be sent out shortly to the Brewery Workers' Unions."

Cleveland Labor News Agency Report.

SALE OF GERMAN PAMPHLETS.

Up to date there have been sold 642 copies of "The Burning Question of Trades Unionism", and 373 copies of "What Means This Strike?" (German). The following named organizations took them in larger quantities, as shown:

German Branch, Section New York, 50 "Burning Question"; Section Schenectady, 50; Passaic County, N. J., 50; Utica, N. Y., 20; St. Louis, Mo., 20, and Brewery Workers' Union No. 9, Milwaukee, Wis., 300 "Burning Question" and 300 "What Means This Strike?" Chicago bought 45 "Burning Question" and 15 "Strikes"; Hoboken, N. J., 24 "Burning Question" and 24 "Strikes"; and Peoria, Ill., 20 "Burning Question" and 20 "Strikes."

Many smaller orders were also filled.

SALE OF GERMAN BOOKS.

Fred Fellerman, Hartford, Conn., took 6 "Woman Under Socialism"; Emanuel Stern, East Pittsburg, ordered $6.80 worth of books for the Hungarian Socialist organization of East Pittsburg; Section Peoria, Ill., took $3.35 worth of books. Many single copies of books were taken.

It might be mentioned that the circulation of "Der Wahre Jacob" has almost doubled since the department was established.

Fred Brown,
Mgr. Cleveland Labor News Agency.

Fall to, comrades! Get out OUR literature. The workers are hungry for it! The field is ours!

HAMMER-BLOWS

[From Sydney, Australia, "People".]

The bases of the Socialist movement is a clear and intelligent knowledge of the class struggle now raging in society and the economic make-up of capitalism. With that key in hand the gates of freedom are to be opened—not before.

Socialist is not going to come overnight, or bit by bit—no revolution was ever accomplished in pieces. Socialistm will only be realized when the workers are educated, organized, and consciously recognize their power. There are no short cuts to the New Jerusalem. The S. L. P. is the party—the only real and honest party fighting for Socialism. Its work and fight makes it possible for every adventurer and fakir to pose as Socialists now the ground has been tilled.

A prelude in music is the introduction of some noble theme, indicating its character or story. Who ever heard, for instance, a prelude by Bach, Mendelson, or Handel being played as an introduction to a burlesque?

Men in earnest have no time to waste,
In patching fig leaves for the naked truth.

The S. L. P. has not time to waste in the patching business, or any use for empty, unscrupulous adventurers, men and women only are wanted, with all that those names stand for.

Not blunt pieces of tin, but the flashing sword of courage, backed with knowledge, patience, persistence, and determination are the elements comprising the S. L. P.

"Let us then be up and doing with a heart for any fate still achieving, still pursuing, learn to labor and to wait."

As Carlyle says: Revolutions never rise above their intellectual level, therefore the class-conscious Socialists recognize the importance of education, and breeding that spirit in hearts and minds of the workers before the Socialist Co-operative Commonwealth is possible.

Inequality is not the result of Ability, but of the private ownership of the earth and the products of labor, In other words the rich are rich because they rob the poor.

"As intelligence advances superstition retires."

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY SUPPLIES.

Constitutions, a neat booklet with red-coated linen cover, containing besides the constitution the membership record and spaces for dues stamps, a record of trasfers and the Party platform, per 100......	$2.00
Application cards, with exposition of Party principles same to be retained by the candidate and detachable application form, per 100........	.40
Transfer cards, for use between Sections and on reverse side, for use between subdivisions of a Section, per 100.....................	.30
Delinquency blanks, which make easy the work of the Financial Secretary when notifying members in arrears, per 100..............	.30
Candidates' resignation blanks, provided for in Article XI. Section 8, of the Party constitution, per 100	.30
Rubber stamps (seal) made to order, each	.67

Orders for supplies must be accompanied by cash, Article XI, Section 17, of the constitution expressly forbidding the keeping of credit accounts. It should be noted that orders for organization supplies must be addressed to the undersigned and not, as is often the case, to the Labor News.

Henry Kuhn, National Secretary,
2-6 New Reade street, New York.

Section Calendar

(Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements, at a nominal rate. The charge will be one dollar per line per year.)

Kings County Committee—Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m., at Weber's Hall, corner of Throop avenue and Stockton street, Brooklyn.

General Committee—Second and fourth Saturday in the month, at Daily People building, 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Offices of Section New York, at Daily People building, 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Los Angeles, California. Section headquarters and public reading room at 205½ South Main street. Public educational meetings every Sunday evening. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

San Francisco, Calif., S. L. P. headquarters and free reading room, No. 906 Market street, Room 15. Open day and evening. All wage workers cordially invited.

Section Chicago, S. L. P. meet every 2nd and 4th Monday at Exchange Hall corner of Sangamon and Monroe street.

All communications to Section Toronto to be sent to C. A. V. Kemp, organizer Section Toronto, Bracondale P. O. Ont. Canada.

Sec. St. Louis, Mo., S. L. P. meets every Thursday, 8 p. m. at 307½ Pine Street Room 6.

Sec. Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P. meets every first and third Sunday of month at 356 Ontario Street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 2.30 P. M.

Tacoma, Wash., Section headquarters and public reading room corner 12th and A street, room 304, over Post Office. Open every evening. All workingmen invited. Business meetings every Tuesday.

Section Providence, R. I., meets at 77 Dyer street, room 8. Something going on every Tuesday night at 8.00 p. m. 2nd and 4th regular business, others devoted to lectures and discussions. During the winter a Science Class every Wednesday night.

Section Indianapolis. Meeings first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 29½ South Deleware street, third floor.

Detroit, Mich., "Socialist Labor Auxiliary Reading Room, room 10 avenue Theatre Bldg. ,Woodward avenue. Open every evening. Sunday all day. Discussion upon interesting topics every Sunday evening. All are welcome.

SOUND SOCIALIST LITERATURE.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party and publishes nothing but sound Socialist literature.

THE BURNING QUESTION OF TRADES UNIONISM

By DANIEL DE LEON.

The author goes into a searching analysis of unionism, showing the mistakes which have been incurred, and setting forth the correct tactics for the economic organizations of labor.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
2 to 6 New Reade st., New York City.

ARBETAREN

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